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COSTA RICA

TRIBUNAL ANNOUNCES FINAL ELECTION RESULTS

PA070724 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0215 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] San Jose, 6 Feb (DPA) -- The Supreme Electoral Tribunal of Costa Rica announced today the final results of the presidential elections held last Sunday in Costa Rica.

Final results:	Votes
Oscar Arias (National Liberation Party-social democrats)	618,641
Rafael Angel Calderon (Social Christian Unity Party)	541,102
Rodrigo Gutierrez (Popular Alliance - communists)	8,972
Alvaro Montero (United People's Party - socialists)	6,875
Alejandro Madrigal (National Christian Alliance - charismatics)	5,729
Eugenio Jimenez (Independent Party - centrists)	1,130

TALKS WITH NICARAGUAN OFFICIALS; TIES 'FROZEN'

PA061121 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has said that there has been an exchange of opinions between Nicaraguan Ambassador to Costa Rica Leonor Arguello and Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Gerardo Trejos.

The foreign minister said he did not have further details of what the two officials discussed. When he was asked if, based on the exchange of opinions between Arguello and Trejos, the Costa Rican Government would be willing to accept an explanation on the issue of Las Crucitas and grant approval for Mrs Violeta Chamorro to be Nicaraguan ambassador to Costa Rica, the foreign minister said no ambassador appointed by the Sandinist regime will be approved until apologies are presented.

These diplomatic contacts between Leonor Arguello and Gerardo Trejos seek to improve the frozen Costa Rican-Nicaraguan relations.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE SAYS 'EL DIARIO DE HOY' INCITING COUP

PA061325 San Salvador Television Educativa in Spanish 1230 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] President Duarte has said that differences of opinion should not concern anyone in a democratic process. He then pointed out that EL DIARIO DE HOY is inciting a coup d'etat.

[Begin recording] [Duarte] We must distinguish between a military position, which is up to the Armed Forces to decide, and personal differences. In a democratic process, I am not worried over the different viewpoints there might be among the various sectors of the country. We have heard how this (?man) D'Aubuisson insulted [words indistinct]. You have noticed how EL DIARIO DE HOY has been inciting a coup d'etat and constantly destabilizing the government's power. However, this does not worry me because [words indistinct] just like some talk [words indistinct]. Thus, this does not worry me. However, I would be worried if this were part of an internal destabilization process within the Armed Forces. We need the unity of the Armed Forces for the security of the nation.

Therefore, I cannot take the liberty of taking actions within the democratic process or adopting positions that might lead to a process that could possibly break the unity of the Armed Forces.

I (?do not) worry about this very much; I work very hard in this regard. I support the measures adopted by the high military command within the framework of the Armed Forces, and I am constantly meeting with the commanders in order to strengthen the unity of the Armed Forces. Therefore, I believe we should separate the two issues because sometimes they are confused. Previously, actions were taken between the ruler who wanted to be a dictator and the (?general) who issued the orders and adopted the decisions. Thus, the enemies of the ruler were attacked [words indistinct].

I remember when a bomb was placed inside LA PRENSA GRAFICA. Actions were taken in order to maintain authoritarianism. A distinction must be made: Is this a democracy? In a democracy, each field has its own scope of action, and one cannot simply ignore this. I respect all opinions. You have occasionally disagreed with my views, but you have never seen me adopt an attitude reflecting a lack of respect for your positions. When you (?say this) or that, I can say: Look, I disagree. I have told the television people: You said something that I think is incorrect. I have the same right as anyone else to disagree. However, this is as far as differences of opinion can go in a democratic society.

Aside from that, we must maintain the unity of the Armed Forces because otherwise, the entire country would be at war. That is why I am asking the press and the other media to be careful. They must always bear in mind that the most important aspect for the security of the nation is the unity of the Armed Forces. When they publish something, they must be careful not to give the impression that there are discrepancies because then they would actually be opening gaps that might become dangerous.

That is why in this specific case and in all others -- because this is not the first change that has been made within the Armed Forces, every month changes are made -- this is part of the normal activity of the Armed Forces. I ask you to help me deliver the message of Armed Forces unity.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, it has been said that the transfer of Colonel Ochoa Perez from the post of commander of the 4th Brigade has a political connotation. What can you say about this?

[Duarte] This is precisely what I have just explained. I have said that (?we must respect) the political stands we all may have. This should be respected in this democratic country. Do not confuse the interests of any person with the unity of the Armed Forces. Above everything else, the Armed Forces must be united so they can defend the nation. For this reason, I ask you not to distort the issues. This is an action based on strictly military decisions and strictly military (?situations). This is the system the Armed Forces follows every 6 months; every year they conduct a general evaluation. Then, they correct their mistakes, change commands, and once again create a structure that is qualified to carry out what is called a national plan.

The national plan is prepared by the government and the Armed Forces to determine the actions of the Armed Forces. [end recording]

President Duarte also referred to "Operation Phoenix," which the Armed Forces are carrying out on Guazapa mill.

[Begin Duarte recording] Precisely. I think you have all noticed that in order to protect the people we mobilized them to San Francisco Mill.

We have given (?land) to all of the civilians we have found. However, no one has reported on the thousands of mines the guerrillas have placed throughout the Guazapa area, mines that have killed hundreds of civilians. We are telling you about this so the civilians in the area will be aware of this and will not suffer the consequences, because there are many mines in the area.

Are you aware of the many soldiers that have lost legs or have been killed due to the mines, and the many civilians that have also been killed? This is an action, this is a program -- Operation Phoenix -- to rid the area of all mines so the people can return to their homes and till their land without the threat of the mines. Look at what was happening in Santa Clara. You know what [word indistinct] is. Thousands of children play there all the time. What would have happened if they had stood on a mine, if instead of a soldier it had been a child? [words indistinct] [end recording]

In conclusion, the president reported on a program for the municipalities that involves a 200-million [currency not specified] loan.

[Begin Duarte recording] There is a public works program. This program has been prepared and is ready for implementation because we have just signed a loan for approximately 200 million colones. [end recording]

OCHOA, BLANDON INTERVIEWED ON ARMY OFFENSIVE

PA060911 San Salvador Channel 2 Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Interview with Colonel Sigifredo Ochoa Perez, departing commander of the Army's 4th Infantry Brigade, and General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon, chief of the General Staff, by unidentified reporter in Chalatenango Department; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] What is the current status of the war against the guerrillas?

[Ochoa] I am not prepared to give you hard facts or percentages. However, I can say that if we speak of 100 percent, which is how I found it, we have advanced 75 percent of the way. We have not yet cleaned this are completely because this is being done gradually. Much progress has been made militarily, in the psychosocial field, politically, economically, and even at the international level. There is still much to be done. I believe that the balance is positive. Progress has been made far beyond the goals we set for ourselves when we began. Keep in mind that the rebels regard this area as part of their strategic rearguard. At present we control 80 percent of the area.

[Reporter] Was the strategy implemented here appropriate?

[Ochoa] It worked for me. I do not know if it is appropriate for someone else.

[Reporter] Why did you change the policy you used when you were commander in Cabanas?

[Ochoa] The situation is different. At that time a de facto regime was in power. Now we have a democratic government. I will at no time break the unity of the institution or the institutionality of the Republic. This is a highly personal matter. I do not involve my units. This is a very personal matter. I believe it deserves respect.

However, when I decide to retire -- if I indeed make that decision, and I do not know when that will be -- I hope no obstacles are placed in my way.

[Reporter] What have been your accomplishments in the military field so far this year?

[Ochoa] Several. We totally recovered the Northern Trunk Highway from km 45 in Colima to km 96 in El Poy. We maintained control over that area, developed it, and dislodged rebels from most of the department's municipalities. I believe we have accomplished a great deal. We cannot say terrorists have been totally expelled from the department because we cannot speak in absolute terms, but must instead speak in relative terms.

[Reporter] Twice you have mentioned retiring. Does this mean you are planning to retire from the Army in the short term?

[Ochoa] Possibly.

[Reporter] What are the reasons for this, sir?

[Ochoa] They are very personal reasons.

[Reporter] Is it true that your time in service will also be complete within several days? One of your promotion comrades-in-arms informed us of this.

[Ochoa] No. I have served 25 years and have 5 more to go.

[Reporter] Could your retirement be prompted by the current situation and those that have taken place in the past?

[Ochoa] That will be interpreted differently.

[Reporter] Is it more probable that instead of returning to another garrison or brigade you will retire?

[Ochoa] I do not believe I will retire or be brought back within the next 2 or 3 months. One must understand that it is best to retire when one is not well regarded or one's work is not appreciated.

[Reporter] Does that come from the government or the Armed Forces?

[Ochoa] From the High Command.

[Reporter] Would that imply you may be back in approximately 2 years?

[Ochoa] I do not know. It could be before that time or within that time.

[Reporter] Usually, when a military man is sent away as an attache this means he is not wanted here. Is that your interpretation of this?

[Ochoa] That is not the most appropriate place for a field soldier.

[Blandon] The main reason for Colonel Ochoa's transfer is adjustments that the Armed Forces make monthly among its chiefs and officers. Also, there is a very important reason. This is that we need people in the United States who are truly familiar with our situation and who can sell the American public opinion on the work the military are doing in this country. A messenger, a military diplomatic representative of the stature of Col Ochoa will perform a brilliant job in the United States. That is the main reason for his transfer.

[Reporter] A few minutes ago Col Ochoa expressed his disagreement with the High Command's decision and said that he might retire. What is your view on this?

[Blandon] That is quite natural when we military men are transferred form one place to another. We identify with our unit, its personnel, the area authorities. It is natural that we do not take well to transfers. However, career military men are used to this. All of us without exception expect changes every end of the month. Col Ochoa has not directly informed me that he is unhappy with the decision or that he plans to request a discharge. He has not told me this. If he did, that would be a very personal decision.

[Reporter] There are indications that the decision was made by the High Command and that is why he is unhappy with it.

[Blandon] All of the decisions contained in the general order issued at the end of every month come from the High Command.

FMLN ON HELICOPTER DOWNING, CIVILIAN BOMBINGS

PA061533 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Attention, pay close attention. We have an important war report on the downing of a Hughes 500 helicopter north of San Miguel Department. Another imperialist dumb fly [mosca boba] has been shot down by revolutionary fire. Our people, the national and international news media, pay attention. Here is a report on the downing of a gringo helicopter north of San Miguel Department. Attention, pay close attention, here is an important war report on the downing of a Hughes 500 helicopter north of San Miguel Department; our people have squashed another dumb fly. Attention, pay close attention, here is the communique:

On 4 February, a team comprising three helicopters, two rocket-firing aircraft, and one Hughes 500 were on an exploration mission throughout different areas of San Miguel Department. At 1000 a guerrilla unit of the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade ambushed the enemy helicopters near El Jicaro canton, San Gerardo jurisdiction. As a result of this guerrilla attack, the Hughes 500 crashed in Iscanal, San Gerardo jurisdiction. The helicopter was destroyed and two of its crew members were killed, while two other crew members were injured.

After the helicopter was downed, the Air Force began an intensive, indiscriminate air attack against Iscanal, Candelaria, and San Sebastian cantons, which have large civilian populations. The attacks against the towns lasted from 1000 to 1500, when the Air Force brought in Ponce Battalion troops to rescue the debris of the downed helicopter and its crew. UH-1H helicopters removed the debris of the Hughes 500 helicopter in two flights.

We repeat this important report: On 4 February at 1000, a team comprising three helicopters, two rocket-firing aircraft, and one Hughes 500 were on an reconaissance mission in San Miguel Department. At 1000 a guerrilla unit of Commander Rafael Arce Zablah ambushed the enemy helicopter near El Jicaro canton, San Gerardo jurisdiction.

As a result of this attack, the helicopter crashed in Escanal, San Gerardo jurisdiction. The helicopter was destroyed and two of its crew members were killed, while two other crew members were injured.

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Three helicopter gunships, one C-47 gunship airplane, and one 0-2 light aircraft participated in the attack against the civilians. These aircraft strafed and hurled rockets at this zone. When this war report was issued, five civilians were reported injured in San Sebastian canton, and there were more civilian casualties in other cantons attacked by the Air Force on 4 February.

We call on humanitarian organizations and the church to assist and protect the injured civilians and all of the residents in the zone where the Army soldiers are [words indistinct]. With this downing of a helicopter by our forces, over 45 aircraft have been destroyed, and over 20 pilots have been killed throughout the 5-year-old war. With the successful ambush conducted by our units, which managed to down an enemy helicopter in northern San Miguel Department, we have downed a total of 11 enemy aircraft in Morazan and San Miguel Departments during the war: nine helicopters, one A-37 Dragonfly airplane, and one C-123 transport plane.

The FMLN [word indistinct] technical combat advances in the anti-aircraft struggle using all kinds of weapons and technical resources. This is only the beginning of the development of our capabilities in the anti-aircraft struggle. We urge our fighters to do their utmost to learn and use anti-aircraft techniques in order to accelerate and deepen the attrition and defeat of the air war promoted by the puppet army.

ARMY BEGINS 'OPERATION CARLOS' IN MORAZAN

PA060834 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Feb 86 pp 2, 19

[Text] A total of 2,500 troops are participating in "Operation Carlos," which began 4 February in Morazan Department, High Command spokesmen have reported. Salvadoran Air Force and Artillery Brigade troops are also participating in the operation as support forces, and so are infantry troops.

This operation is part of the Armed Forces' plan to intensify the struggle against the terrorists and has been called "Operation Carlos" to honor the memory of the late Colonel Domingo Monterrosa Barrios. While he was the commander of counterinsurgency troops, Col Monterrosa was also known as Carlos.

No results have been announced yet, as the troops are marching toward strategic positions throughout Morazan Department.

While the infantry troops advance in Morazan Department as part of "Operation Carlos," "Operation Phoenix" continues on Guazapa Hill. The FMLN-FDR [Revolutionary Democratic Front] members, who are surrounded in various parts of Guazapa Hill, are trying to contact international organizations, military spokesmen said.

They explained that the military is using loudspeakers every day to urge the FMLN-FDR members to leave their caves or hiding places and surrender.

The military spokesmen added that if they surrender, their rights will be respected, and if the international organizations the guerrillas are calling do nothing to keep the guerrillas from destroying public services, and stealing and harming the civilians, then they have nothing to do with the war.

"Operation Phoenix" will continue for an indefinite period, the military spokesmen added.

HONDURAS

BOMB THREAT AT U.S. EMBASSY; NO EVACUATION

PA061745 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1711 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 6 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- Since 0900 (1500 GMT) the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa has been on alert due to the placing of a bomb within its installations. [as received] However, the embassy has not been evacuated. An internal security corps and the Honduran Police bomb squad, with dogs trained to find explosives, have conducted a careful search in the diplomatic mission's installations. An anonymous telephone call to an embassy employee warned about a package of explosives that will presumably be activated at 1400 (2000 GMT). So far, the embassy has abstained from officially commenting on this incident, and the Honduran police have refused to comment.

It is not known why the large staff in the embassy and in a building in front of the embassy which houses the consulate and the information services have not been evacuated to facilitate the search. An alarm is continuously ringing in the two U.S. buildings, which are protected by the Honduran police, as well as by the embassy and a Honduran private security corps to keep the staff on the alert.

Special passageways for emergencies have also been set up, and the bomb squad is thoroughly checking the area. The two buildings are the best guarded buildings in Tegucigalpa, and to enter them, one must undergo a careful search and controls. In addition, no packages are allowed in.

ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE ON REYES REPLACEMENT

PA061310 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Communique issued by Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Office in Tegucigalpa on 5 February -- read by announcer]

[Text] The Armed Forces Public Relations Office takes the liberty to report the following to the public:

1. The Superior Council of the Armed Forces has not yet met to select the three-member slate it will submit to the sovereign National Congress in order for the latter to select the new commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

2. To do so, the Superior Council of the Armed Forces has a term of 15 days, which will expire on 15 February.

3. In any event, the sovereign National Congress is in recess and will not resume sessions until 12 February, and no emergency session will be requested on this occasion because, by virtue of the provisions of Article 281 of the Constitution of the Republic, the duties of the Armed Forces commander in chief are being performed by the chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

4. In view of the foregoing, the Armed Forces' administrative, security, training, and other activities have not been interrupted and are being carried out normally in all units, bodies, and branches.

5. It is not true that there are conflicts among graduating classes over selection of the three-member slate and candidacies, as some media have asserted, or that the acting commander in chief has made any statements regarding conditions or questions being raised concerning his alleged nomination.

6. At the proper time, Honduran citizens will be informed, once the Superior Council of the Armed Forces fulfills its duty of sending the aforementioned slate to Congress. In the meantime, the news media are asked to cooperate by not engaging in speculation on rumors that may arise on this subject, as this will only cause confusion and insecurity among our citizens.

Tegucigalpa, 5 February 1986

NICARAGUA

D'ESCOTO SENDS NOTE TO CONTADORA, SUPPORT GROUPS

PA062155 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Report by Angela Saballos from the Foreign Ministry]

[Excerpts] The Foreign Ministry's Directorate of Information and Press reports that Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto Brockman sent a letter to the foreign ministers of the Contadora and Support Groups yesterday regarding an upcoming meeting which they requested with U.S. Secretary of State Mr George Shultz and to which he agreed.

D'Escoto's letter reiterates the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry's full support for the spirit of the Caraballeda document, especially to the principle of giving equal urgency to the priority actions contained in that document. A top priority for Nicaragua is an immediate end to foreign aid to rebel forces. Compliance with this action, which is essential for regional peace, is an imperative principle of international law and treaties currently in force and is also urgent in the face of current U.S. Administration efforts to grant additional military help to terrorist groups, which it created to attack Nicaragua.

The foreign minister stated that in view of such displays of force and disrespect for international law, which worsens the regional crisis, it is fundamental for the United States to give specific signs of support to Caraballeda by not asking Congress for additional funds for the counterrevolution. The Nicaraguan Government hopes that the meeting between the promoters of the Caraballeda position and Mr George Shultz will prompt the United States to take this step, which can no longer be postponed and which is an indispensable action to strengthen the spirit of Caraballeda, to create an atmosphere of minimum trust and peace in the region, said the foreign minister.

The foreign minister also said, as was stated in the Caraballeda document, that resumption of the bilateral dialogue with the United States to normalize relations between the two countries cannot be delayed. The letter states: In this way, the U.S. Government must not only be willing to resume the dialogue, but also to stop distorting the very essence of the bilateral dialogue and abandon the idea of turning it into an instrument to force Nicaragua to hold an immoral dialogue with terrorist forces that they created to brutally meddle in Nicaragua's internal affairs.

Nicaragua hopes Contadora will successfully stop the U.S. Government's attempt to distort the nature of actions aimed at national reconstruction. The U.S. Government has tried to portray a dialogue with the mercenary groups as an expression of an effective national reconciliation. This position mocks the dignity of the Latin American peoples, because they are demanding a dialogue with forces they themselves created, trained, financed, and organized with the express objective of overthrowing us.

The Nicaraguan Government is profoundly convinced that the Central American countries will carry out actions aimed at reaching an authentic national reconstruction within the legal framework in force in each of those countries, as specified in the Caraballeda document.

With this in mind, the Nicaraguan Government, acting within the framework of its legal authority, has proceeded to delcare a broad amnesty to all sectors involved in counterrevolutionary activities, including armed operations, who are willing to lay down their arms. The return to the country under security measures is guaranteed to all these people; in addition, we will guarantee their right to participate in political parties, aspire to any government position through elections, and actively participate in the country's economic and social life.

Finally, Foreign Minister D'Escoto pointed out that the Nicaraguan Government wishes to express its confidence that the Contadora Group will continue to defend a Latin American, dignified, and peaceful solution to the regional crisis. In order to do that, it is fundamental to respect the sovereign and inalienable rights of the Nicaraguan people and the other peoples of Central America.

[Signed] Managua, 6 February 1986

RIVERA, AMERICANS FLEE TO COLOMBIAN ISLAND

PA071255 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] It has been confirmed that Brooklyn Rivera has fled after being wounded in clashes in which he was intercepted on the Atlantic coast by fighters of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS]. The report comes to us from Bogota, Colombia. Eleven Miskito Indians from Nicaragua, AFP states, including their leader, Brooklyn Rivera, some of them wounded, as well as 1 Canadian and 3 Americans, arrived last night on Colombia's San Andres Island in the Caribbean, fleeing from clashes in Nicaragua.

The report we received just moments ago states that, according to the fragmentary reports that have been received, the Miskitos are the survivors of a bombing that took place in a small town near the Honduran border in January, in which seven people were killed. This is according to one of the Indian's brief statements, when he spoke to a Radio Cadena Nacional radio newsman in broken Spanish.

FIDEL CASTRO READS MAIN REPORT TO PCC CONGRESS

FL041558 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1415 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Main report read by Cuban President Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, PCC, at the Third Party Congress at Havana's Palace of Conventions -- live]

[Text] Distinguished guests, dear delegates: Now we will have to have a little patience. With pleasure I fulfill the basic duty of greeting with warmth and gratitude the invited delegations who honor us with their fraternal presence at this third congress. To them and to our delegates, we apologize if our report is not as brief as we wanted to make it.

We have made a great effort to sum up in a very short recapitulation the essential aspects and ideas related to the topics we are discussing. Taking into consideration that in this congress the economic guidelines for the next 5-year period as well as the draft of the party program -- which will be subsequently submitted to the analysis of militants and people in general -- will be discussed, we have opted not to include many details, ideas, and concepts reported in those documents.

No one should get impatient if at a given time I enumerate very briefly and in a consecutive manner the more outstanding gains attained since the last congress. Criticism of certain areas will not be left out as well as the ideas dealing with what we should fight against and resolutely overcome. Each congress should be an encouraging review of what has been accomplished, an energetic criticism of what has not been done, and an optimistic and determined commitment to the future, trusting our revolutionary strength, our honest struggle, and the immense possibilities that socialism affords.

We have no fear of pointing out our deficiencies, just as we have no fear of proclaiming the great gains of our revolution and our profound and solid confidence in the future.

The 5-year period since the second party congress was doubtlessly very fruitful in our people's creative effort and in the progress made by the revolution. Perhaps they have been the most fruitful and successful gains ever. The gross social product grew at an average rate of 7.3 percent, much higher than the 5 percent that had been projected for the period. Of this, industrial production recorded an average rate of 8.8 percent. Investments in the civil state sector, shown at current prices, amounted to 17.88 billion pesos in the 5-year period, that is, 34.2 percent more than in 1976-1980.

Some 36.2 percent was assigned to the industrial sector, 23.3 percent to agriculture, 18.8 percent to transportation. A total of 71.3 percent of the investments were allocated to these three sectors. Work productivity grew in the 5-year period at a rate of 5.2 percent annually. Seventy-four percent of the increase was due to this factor. Material consumption by production weight decreased from 42.5 cents in 1981 to 40.6 cents in 1985, and energy consumption by production weight reduced by 25 percent between 1980 and 1985, reflecting a great step forward in this indicator.

Personal consumption grew at a rate of 2.8 percent annually, and social consumption by 7.1 percent. The average monthly salary grew by 26.4 percent during the 5-year period. The daily consumption of calories amounted to 2,900 calories per capita, and proteins to 78 grams daily. In 1985, there were 50 refrigerators, 91 television sets, 152 radio receivers, 59 washing machines, and 69 electric fans per 100 homes with electricity.

The sale to the population of construction material for the maintenance of dwellings grew by more than 70 percent. The figures given are of an overall nature. We believe it would be convenient to refer to certain secondary indicators which, due to their importance, should not be omitted. During the 5-year period sugar production grew by 12.2 percent compared to the previous period, reaching stable production of around 8 million tons annually. It is well known that in 1986, this year, due to the severe droughts of last year and the serious damage caused by Hurricane Kate, unfortunately, this figure will be greatly reduced.

The daily industrial milling capacity of the sugar industry grew by more than 5 million arrobas. The use of oil in the production of raw sugar was totally eliminated, which meant a savings of 1,709,000 tons in the 5-year period. The sugar industry's mechanic industry doubled its production during the period. Together with the building of new sugar mills, their projects, and a large part of their equipment manufactured in Cuba, 38 of the existing sugar mills were expanded and modernized.

Some 239 gathering centers were built for loading and cleaning the sugarcane. With these and the mechanization of canecutting which reached 62 percent, the number of canecutters -- which in 1970, barely 16 years ago, was 350,000 -- was reduced to just 72,000 in 1985, which implied a reduction of 48 percent with respect to the very recent 1980 harvest. What was merely a dream during the first years of the revolution had become a reality in our country. All sugar mills became agro-industrial complexes. Many thousands of medium and higher level technicians and engineers joined this branch of the economy. To the benefit of this branch's industrial workers, the fourth brigade was created and a wage coefficient of an additional 15 percent was introduced as well as other measures of economic and social benefit for all workers in the sugar industry sector, which generates our main export product.

Nonsugarcane farming production grew at a rate of 3.8 annually. The total number of tractors grew at a rate of 10 percent, while the average size of the tractors grew by 42 percent. The irrigated area grew by 100,000 hectares, reaching a total of 500,000 hectares in this sector of agriculture. Some 600,000 hectares of land were cleared for grazing land and other uses. Milk production grew by 21 percent. Egg production grew by 23 percent, fowl meat by 30 percent, and swine on the hoof by 33 percent. Bee honey and wax production grew by 39 percent and 51 percent, respectively. The volume of fodder production was greater by 23 percent over the previous 5-year period.

Food production increased 29.2 percent, and vegetable production increased 48.6 percent. Citrus fruit production was double that of the preceding 5-year period. Rice was harvested from a smaller land area, but production increased 14 percent because yield increased from 875 quintals per caballeria to 1,012; that is, from 3 tons per hectare to 3.5 tons.

Tobacco production increased 24 percent; kenaf production increased 21 percent; coffee and cacao, 16 and 27 percent, respectively. Forestry production increased 11.3 percent. The number of trees planted almost doubled the number planted during the previous period. The number of saplings planted was the highest of our entire history: 602 million in 5 years.

Electric power production grew at an average annual rate of 4.3 percent, which low rate demonstrates the effort that was made to conserve energy. It will suffice to point out that in 1985, despite growth of almost 5 percent in the gross social product [producto social global] and a greater number of consumers, the amount of electricity produced did not increase. On the other hand, the installed capacity of the electrical industry increased 25 percent during the period, and the present production capacity of the country is now seven times the capacity that existed at the time of the triumph of the revolution. Fuel consumption was reduced from 275.3 grams per kwh in 1980 to 260 grams in 1985. A reduction which amounted to a saving of 460,000 tons.

Nearly 360,000 additional dwellings were connected to the national electric system, which means that the country now has 85 percent of all its dwellings connected to electric power lines.

The work of drilling oil wells for exploratory and production purposes increased 33 percent, and twice as much oil was extracted as in the previous 5-year period. Thirty-two percent of the total area of Cuba has now been covered by geological survey.

The production of whole fertilizers increased 18 percent while the production of nitrogenous fertilizers increased 56 percent over the previous period with the refurbishing of the Cienfuegos fertilizer plant.

The production of glass containers increased 18 percent, steel production increased 11.7 percent, and in 1985 the Antillana steelworks produced 401,000 tons of structural steel, which is a record and a real feat for a steelworks that is in the process of being enlarged.

Machinery building maintained a sustained growth of approximately 16 percent annually. The cane combine factory in Holguin produced an experimental lot of the new KTP-2 model, which is more powerful and efficient and will begin to be produced in series in 1986.

The production of automotive equipment continued to increase as did the production of railroad freight cars. The production of railroad passenger cars was initiated.

The production of electronic components began at the end of the 5-year period with the inauguration of the semiconductor plant in Pinar del Rio. The production of radios increased 86 percent; the production of television sets increased 94 percent. Small-scale production of color television sets was begun and will continue to grow during this 5-year period.

Intense work was done in the field of spare parts production and salvage; in 1985, production was triple that of 1981, only 4 years earlier. National spare parts production now covers 45 percent of our needs.

Two important modern medical equipment factories are being built at an accelerated rate.

The sustained growth of our economy required considerable help from the construction sector. The annual growth rate of this sector was 9.5 percent. In the 5-year period, the construction of factories increased 45 percent, and several hundred objectives were met, some of them of the importance of the glass container factory of Las Tunas, the agricultural tools plant of Holguin, the textile plant of Santiago de Cuba, which produces 80 million square meters, a great yarn factory, the nickel plant, the Uruguay white paper plant, the second stage of the Antillana steelworks, several new sugar mills, and various thermoelectric power plants. These are under construction, and are giant undertakings, such as the Cienfuegos nuclear power plant and refinery, the great nickel oxide installations in Punta Gorda and Camarioca, where tens of thousands of enthusiastic and unselfish construction workers are at work, not only building the industries but also the social infrastructure, that is, dwellings, schools, medical installations, commercial services, etc.

In Matanzas, the largest thermoelectric power plant in the country is under construction, with more than 300,000-kw capacity and the first construction work on the supertankers port and future oil pipelines has been done.

Havana Province is proud of the thermoelectric power plant under construction in Santa Cruz, the units of which will produce more than 1 million kw, guaranteeing the satisfaction of future electricity needs and lower consumption of fuel oil per electrical unit.

The enlargement of the Antillana steelworks, located near the capital, to a nearly 1 million-ton capacity is in full swing. Camaguey, which has just inaugurated a modern brewery with a capacity of 100 million liters, is working to complete another gigantic factory, in which nearly 5,000 workers will produce goods for the Cuban economy, the civilian population, and -- why hide it -- for the defense of the homeland.

Hundreds of millions of pesos were invested in livestock installations: dairy farms, calf-raising centers, pig farms, and poultry farms; In irrigation and other programs: dams, irrigation and drainage canals, water pipelines, and sewers, and in warehouses, including refrigerated storage plants, etc.

More than 1,000 km of railroad tracks have been laid, including those serving the sugar mills. More than 4,140 km of dirt roads, highways, and speedways were leveled, of which more than 3,600 were rural roads, and approximately 2,060 km were paved.

Social works were not forgotten, although their specific weight in the total volume of investments decreased, as is logical in a country in the economic development phase.

Public health construction works grew 51 percent over the previous 5-year period because of the high human and social priority the revolution gives them, linked with the need to protect the population from possible aggressions of a biological nature. Thirty-one intensive care pediatric wards have been built, 6 important hospitals have been completed and 10 modeled, and 43 polyclinics have been built. Included in the public health construction works is the construction of medical schools in all the provinces. One hundred forty-nine educational buildings were completed, including 50 medium-level schools.

Considerable progress has been made in housing construction. Adding those built by cooperatives and private persons to the 126,000 built by the state in cities and rural areas, 335,000 houses have been built, almost triple those built in the previous 5-year period.

One hundred camping sites have been built and put into use with capacity for 78,500 campers, with the rule that services are given at cost with no profit. The sites were fully equipped and provided with the necessary transport. Eleven hotels have been completed, and six were remodeled for international tourism.

Of course, it was necessary to pay special attention to the construction materials industry. The production of construction materials has grown 16 percent. Daily productions capacities were increased by 4 million cubic meters, and 15 new prefabricated housing plants were put into production ,plus tile factories, concrete pipe plants, clay pipe plants, asphalt plants, etc.

In the past 5-year period, cement production reached 16 million tons, which was 3 million tons more than in the previous period. [Castro turns to aide and requests tea, remarking: "I'm reading a little fast, don't you think? Can you hear me well?" The audience responds: "yes"]

The transportation sector has grown at a yearly rate of 6.5 percent. [Castro coughs] The monthly average for unloading import dry goods in 1985 surpassed the 1980 age by 20 percent. In 1985 the cargo traffic in our ports was 39.8 million tons. We were able to decrease the cost of ships remaining in our ports by approximately 55 percent.

Between 1980 and 1985 our merchant fleet grew more than 21 percent. We were able to handle 1,166,000 tons of dead weight. This is 20 times the amount existent when the revolution triumphed. The railroad hauling of cargo has grown by 16 percent, to more than 18 million tons in 1985. Passenger transportation has grown by 37 percent. The cargo transported by vehicles has grown by 30 percent. We incorporated 7,200 buses of various types, and the growth of passenger transportation by these means has grown by 23 percent. The capacity of our air fleet has doubled in this period.

Communications have grown at a rate of 9.4 percent a year. We completed the main works for coaxial cable. We have increased our telex services. We have installed 126,000 new telephones, and now 80 percent of all long-distance calls are automatic.

Our food industry has grown at a yearly rate of 6.1 percent. The total production of refined vegetable oil in these 5 years grew by 25.7 percent. The production of pork meat strips [bandas] and canned meats experienced 49-percent and 69-percent growth respectively. The production of ice cream and yougurt grew by 21.2 percent and 12.4 percent, respectively. The production of canned fruits, after the new citrus combines began operation, grew by 51.1 percent. The production of wheat flour, with the use of mills, doubled, and we produced 441,000 tons in 1985. The production of alcoholic beverages increased at a yearly rate of 9.3 percent, and in this 5-year period we exported 35 percent of production. The production of beer grew by 10.6 percent compared to the previous 5-year period. Seven hundred new products were introduced, basically within the network of the parallel market. The investments allowed us to mechanize and increase the capacity to produce salt up to approximately 500,000 tons. This level was sufficient to cover our national needs. The increases we have planned will be for export purposes.

In the area of fishery, the total catch of fish grew by 4.9 percent, and in the 5-year period 1 million tons were caught. Fishing on the continental shelf grew by 12 percent. Lobster fishing grew by 19 percent. The production of fish in fresh water dams is now 2.5 times larger. The deep-sea fishing fleet has been able to maintain its levels despite the restrictions that resulted from the expansion of territorial waters to 200 miles. We were able to achieve better industrial use of lobster and shrimp, and new products were introduced to the market, resulting in a 27 percent growth in exports, especially the export of lobster.

The production of light industry products also grew at a rate of 8.8 percent a year. In these 5 years, 870 million square meters of textile were produced; this is 15 percent more than in the previous period. Our production of yarn grew by 30 percent. The production of outdoor and indoor clothing grew by 7.6 percent and 11.5 percent respectively. We produced 50 million pieces of work clothes. Laundry detergent production increased by 5.8 percent. The production of multilayered containers grew by 34 percent; the production of cardboard boxes grew by 60 percent, and we doubled the production of household furniture.

Retail sales and food sales grew at a constant rate of more than 20 percent compared to the previous 5 years. In 1985, on the parallel market alone, sales were 930 million pesos. The number of rationed products was not increased. Quite the contrary, these were decreased. In 1980 there were 150 nonfood products that were subject to control. At the end of 1985 the number had dropped to 68.

In these past 5 years the people bought 502,000 refrigerators, 866,300 television sets, 1,694,000 radios, 656,000 washing machines, and 779,600 fans. This is just to give you an idea of these sales. Repair services for electric home appliances grew by 25 percent. More than 2,200,000 people eat lunch or dinner, or both -- some even have breakfast -- at universities, pre-universities, rural secondary basic schools, technology schools, sports schools, training schools, primary semi-boarding schools, children's centers, workers' mess halls, hospitals, military units, etc. These people eat for free or at a low cost.

At current prices, foreign trade in the past 5 years grew by 65 percent. Exports grew by 58 percent, and imports by 71 percent. Our exports to the socialist countries were 85.4 percent of total exports. Imports from those countries represented 84 percent of the total imports. Imports from the capitalist area, which during the 1976-1980 period represented 26 percent of the total, decreased to 16 percent between 1981 and 1985.

Together with sugar, nickel, and other national export products, citrus products, fish products, steel, recyclable raw materials, and other products had a strong growth. Since last year a special effort has been made to increase the export of nontraditional products to the area of freely convertible exchange, and in 1985 we were able to increase nonsugar exports by more than 30 percent compared to 1984. This does not include the re-export of fuel.

Revenue received through international tourism increased from $39.6 million in 1980 to $87.3 million in 1985. This does not include the indirect revenue received from air transportation and other services.

In these past 5 years we implemented the first labor code in our history. This labor code was discussed and enriched by 2.3 million workers. We implemented new ways to organize work. This was done through the permanent and all-inclusive brigades. We have begun to implement the idea of a combination of jobs, especially in the areas of labor, services, and administration. We have introduced the idea of wage incentives and seniority pay. These incentives encourage workers to remain in regions where priority activities are performed.

The number of job-related accidents has decreased by 13.3 percent compared to the previous 5-year period, and the death rate has dropped by 10.7 percent. The production of protection means has grown by 55 percent, and we have tripled the amount of convertible exchange used for these purposes. We have created 630,000 new jobs. Female participation in the country's work force has grown from 32 to 37 percent. We have completed the implementation of the general wage amendments that benefitted more than 2.5 million workers. The 1985 expenditures for social security assistance increased to 1,015 billion pesos. This represents 260 million more than in 1980. Approximately 1 million people, not counting their families, benefit directly from this social security plan.

I will extend myself a bit more on the revolution's efforts of the past 5 years in the area of public health. You can all recall that it was precisely at the beginning of the past 5-year period that our homeland was hit by a strong epidemic of hemorrhagic dengue. All signs indicate that this was deliberately introduced into our country by Yankee imperialism in a new and brutal act of aggression against our people. At that moment no other part of the world was experiencing this disease. Cuban citizens working abroad had not exhibited symptoms of this illness. No foreigner had been reported to have this illness. However, it was suddenly reported in our capital city and quickly spread like wildfire. This was one of the viruses that the Pentagon had been enthusiastically experimenting with for years.

It is quite true that the high rate of infection by the aedes-aegypti, due to the unquestionable neglect of our sanitation officials, offered the appropriate field for such a criminal sabotage against our people's health. The way that the revolution and the people, especially the doctors and health workers, reacted to and waged this battle was amazing. The epidemic, which at a given moment reached a figure of more than 11,000 cases per day and which affected hundreds of thousands of people, causing the deaths of more than 150 of them, mostly children, was completely eradicated in a few short months. I do not think any other country has such a record. Many resources were used immediately and without hesitation. Fumigation equipment was brought to our country immediately via air and other fast means. We also received hundreds of tons of chemical products from all over the world, even from far away places like Japan. In a matter of days, thousands of men and women were prepared and organized to confront the situation. They were supported by mass organizations throughout the country. In the final phase of this truly heroic battle, all the cases were isolated, and we were able to keep track of even the last person affected by the epidemic, using every means to prevent its spreading. This is how we won that epic battle. The final result we saw was that the effort we had been making in the past to turn our country into a medical power increased as of that moment.

As we already mentioned when we spoke of construction, we have built 31 pediatric wards in the country where children who need help receive the most modern and best attention. Thousands of lives have been saved in only a few years with this type of service, received by all Cuban children. Our Cuban children have no reason to envy the treatment received by the children of the very rich in the most industrialized capitalist countries. We have invested 40 million pesos in pediatric hospitals alone. Of these 40 million pesos, 20 million are in equipment alone. To this we must add a new, important, and very modern center for cardiovascular surgery and pediatric cardiology which is being built and will soon become a reality.

The country's health and epidemiological services have been considerably strengthened: 1,354 medical and nonmedical professionals and 3,346,346 medium-level technicians, plus thousands of workers, give their services in those installations. The presence of the aedes-aegypti has decreased to laughable levels and has completely disappeared in 5 provinces and 117 municipalities in the country.

New services for children were created, including hemodialysis, starting from a certain age. Consultations on genetics are offered in all the provinces' maternity and pediatric hospitals, offering advice in that field to all the population. Techniques for diagnosis in the prenatal period are being applied by three genetic organizations, and we are actively working to introduce others. With this in mind, we have installed 11 provincial laboratories, and the remaining laboratories should be opened in 1986.

The infant mortality rate dropped in 1984 to 15 per 1,000 newborn children. Despite the increase to 16.5 the next year for various reasons, the figure will undoubtedly be reduced to below 15 in a brief time. The life expectancy rate has now increased to 74.2 years. The number of doctors per inhabitant, which was previously 1 for every 638 inhabitants, has grown to 1 for every 443 inhabitants in 1985; and the number of stomatologists has increased from 1 for every 2,667 inhabitants to 1 for every 1,864 inhabitants.

The opening of centers such as the Ameijeiras brothers clinical-surgical hospitals, where they have just successfully carried out the first heart transplants in the country, allows the inclusion of new lines of development in the national health system and the development of specialists. The techniques of using ultrasonic diagnosis is being applied in 65 hospitals throughout the country, where 1 million examinations are performed per year. In addition, computerized axial tomography has been introduced during the last 5 years.

The pediatricians intensive therapy concept will be applied in the internal medicine wards of all clinical-surgical hospitals, and special neo-natology wards will be created in all gynecology-obstetric services throughout the country. Rural medical services have been strengthened, creating the Piti Fajardo contingent, where hundreds of youths in the last year of medicine offer their service in rural areas and hospitals during 4 years.

We are working on development programs up to the year 2000 which include 35 clinical-surgical specialties. The creation of an overall campaign against sedentarism, obesity, and smoking was approved, and it should seriously occupy our efforts in the next few years.

Nevertheless, the greatest efforts have been exerted in the selection and preparation of medical personnel and the creation of conditions for their studies. Eleven new medical faculties were opened and three others enlarged in the last 5 years. At least 1, or more than 1, exists in each of the country's 14 provinces. Seven modern health polytechnical centers were opened to train mid-level technicians and nurses. One of the most promising events in this sector was creation of the Carlos J. Finlay medical sciences detachment in 1982. Four contingents already comprise its close ranks, and those in the first contingent are already in their 4th year of medical school. 5,500 youths register for the detachment each year, and they are chosen on the basis of their vocation, dossier, and revolutionary conduct. The sum of the Carlos J. Finlay detachment and the Mario Munoz vanguard, comprised of youths in their 5th and 6th years of medical school, plus the stomatology and nursing school students, gives us a total of 27,000 students in the medical sciences sector. A new medicine program was prepared based on the experiences of the best universities, and the program was implemented in this course.

None of the various initiatives implemented during the last years in the health sector will have greater social achievements and repercussions in the population's medical services than the creation of what has been called the families' doctor or family doctor. This professional bears little resemblance to his counter-part within capitalism. Though it was started barely 2 years ago, the experience has been successfully developed, and it represents a new and revolutionary perspective in the health sector; this is only possible given the conditions created by socialism. Seven hundred and sixty one thousand young doctors and an equal number of nurses are currently providing this service to almost half a million citizens throughout the country.

Whatever problems could not be solved concerning primary services in a network of more than 400 polyclinics and the problems afflicting the outpatient clinics and the personnel on duty at the clinical-surgical hospitals will undoubtedly be fully and successfully solved with the creation of this service. Approximately 20,000 doctors and 20,000 nurses -- 40,000 health workers -- will offer their services in the near future; more than two-thirds of these will be women. These 20,000 doctors will become specialists in general medicine through a strict program of studies, a new branch of medicine that is closely linked with the concept of a family doctor and from which many of the current clinical specialties will emerge as a secondary specialty, and they will be joined by 5,000 additional doctors and 5,000 nurses, who will offer their services in schools, factories, and other work centers. The doctor will be found whatever the citizen may be.

This group of initiatives and measures will undoubtedly place us in a position of honor in the field of medicine among all countries of the world. Present and future generations will witness this.

It is also known that the revolution has directed great efforts toward education. Also, work in this field has been fruitful during the last 5 years. Education for 5-year-olds increased by over 80 percent, by almost 100 percent among those between 6 and 12, and over 87 percent among those between 15 and 16 years of age. Over 46,000 students are enrolled in special education classes in 433 schools.

Double session primary school children represent 29.58 percent of the total of all students. Semi-boarding primary school children represent 29.3 percent of the total. The battle for a ninth-grade level of education for adults has been successful. Forty-six higher education centers are operating. University level enrollment, including military and party schools at this level, amounts to over 280,000. The experience gained during this 5-year period in the practice of labor pre-assignment and pre-placement of university students has been useful and positive.

Special attention has been given to teacher's training. Institutes for educational advancement increased their enrollment to 107,000 students during the 1985-86 school year, which surpasses by 77 percent the enrollment of 5 years ago. It includes mainly on-duty teachers who are taking higher education courses. Among them, tens of thousands of primary school teachers are studying to obtain a bachelor's degree in higher education. A reserve of over 10,000 primary school teachers has been very useful for these projects, allowing primary school teachers to study full time with pay during a part of the study program. This revolutionary concept has been rewarded by the first graduating class of 2,700 students as bachelors in primary education last year. In a period of less than 12 or 14 years, primary education in Cuba will be taught by bachelors in primary education with an education equivalent to 18 years of schooling. This will place us ahead in the world in that area. Progress is great if one considers that when the revolution triumphed we had 1 million illiterates with a population of 6.5 million. Not too long ago, in 1970, only 30 percent of primary school teachers were certified. The teachers' reserve has also enabled us to send almost 5,000 primary school teachers to study higher level education, to be trained as mid-level teachers of physics, chemistry, and mathematics, which are still considered deficient areas because of our lack of tradition in the study of those essential subjects in our country.

One of the ideas, which has turned into one of the most rational and promising ones in the area of education during this 5-year period, was to turn vocational schools which had students enrolled in the 6th through 12th grades into pre-university vocational schools, that is, between the 10th and 12th grades, in which admission requirements would not only consider the student's record, but also competitive entrance exams. This last requirement, of including competitive entrance exams, was taken from the experience of the pre-university school for exact sciences created some years ago in Havana with stimulating results. Today we have three of those pre-university schools -- one in the western part of the country, another in central Cuba, and another in the east with room for 500 students each. However, an increase in quality in the concept of vocational schools which would be considered pre-university vocational schools was created with the idea of provinding all vocational schools of the country, including military vocational schools, with the same equipment and same selection mathod used by the first pre-university centers for the exact sciences. In only 2 years this will increase the enrollment of students in vocational institutes for exact sciences to 40,000. Moreover, the normal pre-university education program will include strong training in physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, or electronics, according to the specific university faculty the students plan to enter. In addition, they will receive 90 hours a year of computer training for 3 years.

Teachers are already being trained for the introduction of these programs. Students who graduate from these schools will represent a guarantee of the high technical and scientific quality we will achieve in our universities. Computer training, which was already introduced at university levels, will be added to the rest of the pre-university institutes, technological and basic secondary schools. These programs will be completed during the 1986-90 5-year period.

When I refer in this report to the economic and social development achieved during this last 5-year period. I cannot omit a reference to scientific research, literary and artistic culture, and sports. The area of scientific research, including the institutes of the Public Health Ministry which also provide serices to the people, employs 39,000, including 14,000 high-level education graduates. This high human potential and the resources at their service could contribute considerably to the economic and social development of the country. However, achievements in this field are not sufficient, and a lot has to be done in the area of planning and integration of science and technology for the development of the national economy in the introduction of its results to production and services and the true implementation of scientific policies that the country demands.

Nevertheless, some achievements were made. Among the most outstanding are the development of technologies and new products in the nickel industry, in sugarcane by-products, in the foodstuff industry, medical diagnostic systems, creation of medical equipment, utilization of recycled sources of energy, the obtainment and introduction of new varities of crops more resistant to plagues and diseases, and greater agro-industrial yields, genetic and nutritional improvements in poultry, swine, and cows.

Our scientists were also highly successful in countering plagues and diseases which appeared suddenly in the country. The creation by a group of young investigators of the ultra-microanalysis system for the diagnosis of various diseases, which allows for important savings in reagents and time and gives reliable and precise results, represents an undeniable and important scientific achievement. Outstanding achievements in the biological sector also included the extraction of interferon from white blood cells for medical use, which has allowed for the successful countering of many viral diseases and some types of tumors,and the application of advanced techniques, such as tissue cultures and genetic engineering and biotechnology procedures. These techniques and those related to the production of (?monoclonal) antibodies for diagnoses and other purposes linked with human, animal, and vegetable health, plus other topics of interest for the economy are currently being rapidly developed in our country.

The construction of a new and modern investigation center will soon be concluded in record time. Intensive work is being carried out concerning the preparation of the scientific and technical personnel who will work in the center. Bearing in mind that biotechnology is one of the vanguard techniques that will determine our future, it is doubly important, because it will place our homeland among the most developed nations in this field. Referring to scientific-technical information, the central scientific and technical library is in the process of being created and developed at the former national capitol; it will offer service to all the country with modern printing and communication equipment. Finally, we must point out that the technical youth brigades and the national association of innovators and efficiency experts have made valuable contributions to the country's economy, although their results have not been fully developed.

We continue to make progress in the cultural and literary sector. In 1985 the country had 319 public libraries, 3,200 school libraries, 222 specialized libraries, and 70 university libraries. There are currently 311 bookstores, 1 for each 33,000 inhabitants. All the country's municipalities benefit from this network. More than 15,000 books were exhibited at the international book fairs in Havana in 1982 and 1984, with the participation of dozens of countries. The country's capacity for industrial printing has grown. More than 5,000 textbooks and approximately 3,300 books were printed in 1985, with an average annual production of 40 million books and a constant increase in the index of books per inhabitant; yet the increasing demand for textbooks and general books cannot be met. During this same period many Cuban writers' works and compilations -- plus our classics -- were increasingly re-edited abroad. The Jose Marti Foreign Language Editorial House, established to publish the works of Cuban or foreign writers whose work is linked with our country, has already published 79 books in various languages.

Musical creation has increased; copyrights for approximately 24,000 new songs were secured in the last 5 years. The production value of musical instruments has almost doubled, but current demands cannot possibly be met, even if we include imports. Forty-five new films were produced in the last 5 years in the cinematography sector, including 31 fiction films -- an increase of 55 percent -- 12 documentaries, and 2 animated cartoons. This also includes 209 short documentaries, 259 newsreels, and 41 animated films. The country's theaters showed 619 film premieres. The new Latin American Cinema Festival, which started 7 years ago, has become a strong and vigorous movement. Its increasing prestige was eloquently proved by the seventh cinema festival, which recently included with the participation of more than 800 leading figures and members of the film industry in Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa, Western Europe, socialist countries, and the United States and the presentation of approximately 400 films. Sorry, I cannot invite you. [laughter] I have to take care of my voice because a pro-Yankee virus is going around, as I said a few days ago. Yes. [laughter]

Our people participated en masse in that festival, proving their high cultural level and capacity to enjoy, value, appreciate, and judge cinematographic productions. The New Cinema Committee decided to create a foundation to help develop this activity in our hemisphere. In addition, and in coordination with Cuba, it agreed to create a school for the formation and improvement of Latin American and Third World movie actors and actresses, with headquarters in our country. Based on the committee's agreement, the next festival will also include television. [Castro coughs]

The art galleries, which have contributed so much during the last 5 years to developing the plastic arts in our country, increased from the 28 which existed in 1980 to 143 in 1985 and were visited by 5 million people. The number of universal arts galleries increased to 11. These were created with reproductions which allow all our people to be in contact with the most valuable works from the best museums in the world. The Wilfredo Lam Center was created to develop specialized research and information. The first plastic arts biennial was held in our capital, with the participation of artists from 22 Latin American countries and more than 2,000 works; it was visited by more than 200,000 persons. Our plastic arts members have received dozens of international prizes and awards. The influence exerted by institutions such as the fund for cultural properties and the UNEAC (National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists) economic, literary, and artistic fund is worthy of mention. One hundred and fifteen works of sculpture were exhibited throughout the country in the last 5 years. The National Advisory Council for the development of monuments and sculptures was also created.

Theater arts have experienced significant progress. There are 50 theater groups, 24 of them for children and youths. Havana theater festivals have been consolidated. The national ballet, and folkloric groups have demonstrated their high quality, among the best at the international level. The Camaguey Ballet increased its quality and prestige. The international ballet festival has been considered one of the most important events of its kind. The amateur artist movement includes 1.578 million members, which shows the high participation of the people in the cultural life of the country.

Art education today has 59 centers: 37 at the elementary level, 21 at the intermediate level, and 1 higher level center. The material base of many of these schools is still poor. The program designed several years ago for the construction of vocational and professional art schools is advancing slowly because of limitations in resources and the need to give priority to other more urgent economic and social projects. However, they should not be completely forgotten for future planning because they are not ambitious. Cultural and artistic development, without being too expensive, considerably elevates the level and quality of life of the people.

There are other considerations we could note as part of the work done by the revolution in this area. A series of legal tools was adopted to rescue, protect, and spread in an organized and scientific manner the cultural heritage of the Cuban nation. A program of professional development, unknown in Cuba until recently, is being carried out, one of research applied to cultural heritage and specialized training in restoration and conservation techniques for young architects, bachelors of science, and artists who have graduated from our higher education centers. Technical potential has been achieved by training hundreds of university graduates and mid-level technicians. Satisfactory progress has been achieved in the rescue and restoration of the Old Havana historic area, declared by UNESCO as part of humankind's heritage. The oldest area of the city has changed its appearance, and our people are more aware and proud of what is done there. The city museum had 1 million visitors in 1985. Over 9 million visited the museums of the country, surpassing the numbers in many developed countries.

The last quinquennium was fruitful in terms of our culture's international protection. In that period of time Cuba participated in 250 international events and won around 300 awards and honorable mentions in various areas of art and literature. Thousands of our country's artists and writers have visited every continent, taking their message to tens of countries. Also, thousands of foreign artists have visited our fatherland. Outstanding recognition should be given to the Saiz brothers and Raul Gomez Garcia bridgades, the new folkloric song movement, the House of the Americas, the Union of Cuban Writers and Artists, and other valuable cultural institutions in our country.

During this 5-year period participation in sports-related activities increased by 43 percent. Over 2,000 primary sports installations were built for massive participation in sports, mainly in rural areas. The number of school children involved in organized sports activities doubled, producing about 70 percent of the athletes who have participated in international sports events. The conditions for new successes have been created in sports, in which the revolution has seen great progress. Our schools for physical education and sports teachers and the high institute have provided the country with a technical potential in this field undreamed of during the early days.

About 3,700 graduates of higher level and 6,800 mid-level graduates were incorporated in the teaching and practice of sports and physical education in the quinquennium. Over 21,000 technicians participate in these activities. Thousands of sports installations and also great schools for high performance sports were created by the revolution. Thus, the foundations for sustained progress have been, and even a jump in quality in all areas of sports. This depends on us.

Our efforts should be made independent of our participation in international competitions. As you know, circumstances may arise in which our principles of international solidarity will require our teams' absence at an important sports event, as happened in the last Olympic Games; although for our country in particular, security matters have never been an obstacle to attending an event anywhere. The rough and rude way in which Cuba, the country that has done the most in this hemisphere for the development of sports, was deprived of hosting the next Pan-American Games in favor of the city of Indianapolis, whose authorities bribed with $25 million the multimillionaire who is acting as virtual owner of the Pan-American sports organization, does not augur anything good for international sports in the next few years. This same trend will manifest itself in the Seoul Olympics -- conceived with evident political purposes that are divisionist and reactionary -- if no solution is found, as suggested by Cuba, to share the games with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. In a shameless and disgusting way, the Olympics encourage professional athletes to succumb to the offers of promises of millions and careers totally unrelated to sports. To tell the truth, the Olympic movement, born when colonialism was at its height, is a movement captained by wealthy countries and the old metropolis, which have little to do with Third World countries, which have little opportunity to develop sports or host Olympic game.

Amid the misery experienced by thousands upon millions of human beings, it is embarrassing to hear the arguments that the richest European cities are making to host the 1992 Olympic Games. The poor capital cities of Africa, Asia, and Latin America cannot even dream of being host cities. Of this feast for the rich, they will not even get the crumbs. If the countries of the socialist community, countries that have the best athletes in the world, and the most serious and prestigious countries of the Third World were to decide to unite and struggle against these embarrassing situations, the Olympic Games would cease to be the property of the privileged mafia at the service of neocolonialism and could truly become a vehicle of peace and friendship among all the peoples of the world. [applause]

We must be prepared for these struggles and uncertainties. Our sports movement must not weaken for a single second. The sports aggression against Cuba must be corrected; the Seoul Olympics must be shared. For Cuba, the glory of being loyal to its principles is worth more than all the gold in the Olympic medals and more than all the gold in the world. [Castro coughs] [applause]

Up to this point, companeros delegates, I have summarized our main achievements in the areas of social and economic development of the past 5 years. They have been many. You must be aware of the fact that during this period our country experienced a long drought that worsened in may 1983 and became more intense in 1985. That year was the driest since the triumph of the revolution. During 3 years of our 5-year period, the average rainfall was 80 percent below normal for the rainy season. To these climatic difficulties we must add five tropical storms and torrential rainfall during the first 3 months of 1983 that affected the sugar crop, among others. The recent Hurricane Kate was one of the worst the country has experienced in terms of economic damage.

When evaluating our social and economic results, we must also be aware of the deep economic crisis that has been affecting the developed capitalist world, especially the Third World countries. The past 5-year period coincided with one of the worst periods experienced by the Latin American economies. During this period all economic indexes dropped; many of them were negative. On some occasions these drops represented 20-year lows. Likewise, the price of sugar on the so-called world market and the lowest price of this century, and there is an imperialist blockade of our homeland.

Nothing can measure our successes better than the results of our excellent and just economic relations with the socialist community. However, we could have made better use of our resources and efforts. Our work has been far from being the very best. There are still evident faults and shortcomings that we must point out and fight with all our efforts. Only in this manner will we be worthy of calling ourselves Communists. [applause] [Castro coughs] Only in this manner will we be able to advance with quicker and more solid steps.

The main problem experienced by the country's economy between 1981-1985 was due to the fact that, even though we experienced more than acceptable growth, it was not enough in the areas where we needed it most, that is, in the export of goods and services and in substituting imports. Traditional exports to the capitalist area were affected, and even though there was a growth in the export of new products, this was not enough to reduce the deficit in our balance of payments in convertible currency. Although tourism has experienced a sustained increase, it has yet to reach the levels we must aspire to. To achieve this, we will have to overcome subjective difficulties that if allowed to continue would endanger the great future of this activity.

We were not able to fulfill our commitments for the delivery of certain products to the socialist countries. We must also point out that in the period that just ended we have included very few new export products to the socialist area. This is a field in which we must advance more firmly because of the vast market and favorable conditions that the CEMA member countries offer us for deeper economic integration.

The import rate decreased during the 5-year period, but not as much as we needed and not as much as it could. We still have excessive spending and low income in the areas of so-called productive services. In the first place, we have those associated with international transportation, the insufficiency of our merchant fleet. The use of this fleet is far from optimum because of the inefficient way in which we still operate our ports, shipyards, and air terminals.

Despite the advances achieved, the growth of our sugar production, our main national industry, has been below its potential when compared to the resources invested in this area. The development of byproducts has lacked an adequate plan. Sugarcane production was not met because not all the scheduled areas were sowed, and a satisfactory agricultural yield was not achieved. High losses were reported in the sowing because of low quality in the preparation of land; very powerful tractors were not adequately supplied; fields were not completely leveled or drained; development and introduction of more productive and disease-resistent varieties were delayed; low quality seed was used; out-of-phase sowing was done; and work to pull weeds was delayed. These are some of the factors that contributed to fact that many fields were not adequately sowed, and this limited the agricultural yields.

The use of fertilizers has proven deficient for most crops. In addition, it has been affected by irregular industrial supplies and imports; transportation problems; high losses due to the poor quality of the containers and their manipulation and storage; delays in construction and reconstruction, and changes in the irrigation systems; and the lack of maintenance and drainage of tilled areas. Low efficiency in the use of current systems has also prevented a higher yield in our sugarcane, citrus, rice, tobacco, and fodder production, among other things. We have not achieved the highest level possible in self-supply of food and vegetables throughout our territories. We still have losses in the harvest, handling, and sales of agricultural products, and this matter gets less attention than it should.

Our livestock has been affected by inadequate handling of flocks, a low production rate, and insufficient feeding. This plus the last 2 years of drought have caused a reversal or the increase which had been achieved earlier in this 5-year period and curbed the reproduction rate. Despite the state's concern for strengthening its links with the peasant sector, it has not received adequate attention. We have been slow to make decisions about prices that clearly discouraged important productions. We have also maintained excessively high prices for certain products.

Subjective situations prevail in our national economy, conspiring against the reduction of production costs, increased yields, and savings in material, labor, and financial resources. We have not achieved enough progress in the exploitation of our industrial capacity; low quality levels and lack of stability in the labor force have become some of the basic factors for the slow assimilation process in new installations. Technical-organizational deficiencies in the production sector; insufficient use of foreign technical assistance; and lack of technological discipline and demands for industrial repairs and maintenance still prevail. The cooperatives' production for our national economy and secondary production for consumer goods have not been properly developed. The exploitation of our industrial capacity for the production of sugar, pressed bagasse boards, torula yeast, textiles, fruit preserves, and cement was very low. Rayon, clorox, and caustic soda production goals were not met, and this brought about an additional expense in foreign exchange to prevent any adverse effects on the sectors which consume these products.

The exploitation and use of construction and agricultural equipment and transportation equipment have remained at a low level. The lack of all types of containers systematically affected various production and brought about the nonfulfillment of some exports and supplies to the population. The production goals of glass bottles and containers, corrugated cardboard boxes, folding containers, labels, and plastic boxes were not fulfilled; we have yet to achieve enough progress in the recovery of some of these containers.

The mechanical industry maintains a low use of its installations and faces problems at technical and quality levels. The production of spare parts increased, but we did not always fulfill our goals concerning supplies and commodities and the development of new ones to replace convertible currency imports. All this, plus a high consumption rate, resulted in high foreign exchange expenses.

Regarding the construction sector, low efficiency is noticeable in the immobilization of resources, lack of organization, and the high number of construction projects pending completion. Ongoing projects have increased, and completion programs have not been fulfilled, particularly because the plans included new works that did not have the necessary funds and construction manpower. There is delay in technical documentation; the development of the organizations' capacity for investment has been weak; and projects have not been handled with the necessary rationality. In addition, problems have arisen at the construction sites due to the quality of materials and manufactured products.

Referring to construction maintenance, the advances achieved do not fully meet the accumulated needs. Efficiency in the exploitation of our railroads did not achieve the necessary levels, and the quality of service for the passengers is still very low. The adequate goals have yet to be achieved concerning use of the equipment to handle and transport cargo. Use of the country's cargo equipment and installations is still below its normal capacity.

The continuous accumulation of raw materials, materiel, spare parts, and other goods, plus resources immobilized mainly due to improper planning and organization of supplies, also jeopardizes increased economic efficiency. The still inefficient application of the principle of payment for work done is evident in the high percentage of elemental, not technical, norms which still prevail; insufficient payment for the amount and quality of manufactured products; and the systems of prizes and awards which do not always live up to the expected production goals in many organizations. Weak administrative activity has been noted in this sector.

One of the most serious problems we have confronted has been the lack of a definite plan for our economic development, especially in the planning and implementation of an investment process essentially based on sectorial initiatives and with an adequate centralized directorate. We have many examples: new industries and agricultural centers in areas where there are not enough houses to accomodate the work force; very important agricultural programs, like the citrus program, where areas have been sowed but have no irrigation; irrigation systems without a pumping station or power to put them into operation; workshops and installations without the necessary connections; housing areas that have been completed without urbanization; etc.

Port investments are behind with regard to the development of international trade, and other links in the port-transportation-domestic economy chain have not grown at the necessary rate. In the case of the central railroad, we have invested hundreds of millions of pesos, but its exploitation has not been sufficient because it has not always been completed with the necessary line signals, loading and unloading centers, railroad stations, etc. We have not lacked foreign financing to carry out various plans, but these plans have not always been accompanied by the necessary judgment and discipline to take advantage of the resources invested.

Despite efforts to erase the disparity in the social and economic development of various areas, there are still some differences, especially in the eastern areas. The support for the mountainous regions has not been enough to achieve the settlement of agricultural workers and peasants of those regions.

In the scientific-technical field we have not had the necessary links for the subjects under investigation to offer specific solutions to the main problems of our economy, nor have we had the necessary organization to prevent the duplication of effort. We maintained various investigatory efforts, and this has resulted in the fact that the modest advances achieved have not been in proportion with the resources made available. It has been proven that introduction of the scientific-technical achievements does not enjoy adequate priority. In general, the specialties of scientific degrees granted are still not enough for the country's needs.

We are behind in development of our electronics industry. Only recently were the first steps taken to include computer techniques in education, public health, scientific investigation, transportation, and production processes. Even though we increased the automation of data processing in the administrative area, this is still not enough. We must note that modern retrieving techniques, linked closely to the use of computers, have hardly been developed.

The supply of basic goods guaranteed to the people presented a lack of stability and flexibility in trade. Though much was done for the workers in the sugarcane zones and agricultural areas in general through the orchard areas, and even though this represented a just intiative of the revolution, this right was abused. It created increased distribution, at times excessive, to the point that those favored by the orchard plan were also receiving goods from other means. Lands were being used for this to the detriment of basic productions of the enterprises.

Industrial products for private consumption, especially clothing, footwear, household furniture, sheets, and towels, have not been sufficient. There has been a problem of variety, incorrect sizes, bad finishing, and obsolete and repeated models. This problem has been aggravated by difficulties in distribution that at times have been absurd.

In the services there have been demonstrations of a lack of sensitivity to the population's problems, treatment that is not compatible with the postulates of the revolution, low quality help, lax administrative attitudes that favor disorders and denigrate the role of the state, and some schedules that do not adjust to the needs of users, further aggravating the problems of an insufficient network.

The situation of services in the City of Havana creates serious problems for home maintenance, installation of public services, and passenger transportation. Water supply is deficient and worsened by the waste experienced by the condition of the network. Telephone service is experiencing serious difficulties. The number of beds available for medical treatment in the capital city, where some national services are also offered, has not grown at an adequate rate. The paperwork that the people must complete before they can resolve simple legal problems continues to be excessive and bureaucratic.

Despite undeniable advances in the area of health, the demand for quality services is still not being met. Although negligence is not frequent, these cases do occur. One single case of negligence is incompatible with the principles of medical ethics. The treatment provided by some personnel on duty at some hospitals is deficient in quality because of the pressures for medical assistance. An adequate stability has not been achieved among auxiliary personnel. At some centers hygiene is below requirements. Costly equipment has been purchased, and there are times when installation of the equipment is delayed. Maintenance is still insufficient. The production of a batch of medicine may not be stable, and the distribution of this medicine has encountered difficulties.

Even though we have increased awareness about the protection of our environment, the struggle against contamination has been slow, and the proper disposal of residues has been achieved in only a very few installations. Many of the medical treatment systems are not working or are deficient, and because of an oversight, the complementary investments necessary for the operation of this equipment has not been programmed in many of these new installations.

The quality of the teaching process still has deficiencies. Some classes are still rated as only fair or poor. Many times notes replace textbooks. Some students are passed to the next grade without the necessary knowledge, influenced by certain existing mechanisms and other causes. Teachers and professors have a bureaucratic overload, which distracts them from the basic objective of their tasks. Among other factors, the work of students who go into higher education shows deficiencies in the system. The program of teacher evaluation is still insufficient, and the cirriculum needs to be improved. Deficiencies in formal education persist, even in teachers, and incorrect behavior is exhibited by some youths, strictly as a result of bad habits and social causes.

There are some laboratories and workshops that have not been set up or which are not in operation. In many cases the installations are not being utilized and their maintenance presents serious difficulties. Sports facilities are not being properly utilized. Although they have improved, study habits and skills in students of higher education with foreign language knowledge are poor. Their cultural development as a whole is not satisfactory. The process of incorporating recently graduated teachers with no experience should be noted. It is only in the last few years that production professionals have been incorporated in the teaching system; and teachers have been incorporated in production, but not sufficiently. The cultural and artistic potential and cultural installations of the country are not fully utilized. The publicizing of activities is still insufficient, as is work with children and youth so the work of community cultural institutions still does not have adequate repercussions. The link between cultural groups and the media has been weak. The lack of cooperation between artistic groups and radio and television has not contributed to the essential development of artistic and creative potential. Editorial policies have deficiencies. The release of books is poor. For various reasons there are problems related to movie programming; not all movie scripts achieve the required quality.

Regarding employment -- one of the people's basic rights -- while in many areas of the country there is a shortage of workers, there are excesses in other areas of the country, which should be considered in planning development programs.

The control of administrative payroll and the work for their constant reduction shows a generalized weakness in our state system. Many workers, technicians in various specialties, have nonproductive jobs in different state offices, away from production and service positions where they could be making valuable contributions and developing as promising technical cadres.

Cadre policy regulation was dealt with too late. Its implementation has been very limited. The training of the state's administrative cadres was not organized systematically. After initial efforts in implementation of the economic planning and direction system were made, no consistent improvement efforts were made. The motivation was lost, and the necessary creativity to tailor to our special needs a system mainly taken from the experience of other countries was lacking. Thus, the nucleation of enterprises and the first enterprise labor unions began to occur because of the pressure of certain ministries. Some of the labor unions are not exempt in certain cases of sectoral approaches and poor cohesiveness, which will have to be revised.

A supply organization which was excessively centralized remained virtually static. Little was done to improve the organization of foreign trade and speed up its activities. Lack of discipline was noted in the reaching and fulfillment of contracts. Some progress was made on incentive mechanisms, but in an isolated, disjointed fashion, which did not always prove to be a real economic lever. Statistics continued to be an exaggerated compilation of data of questionable usefulness. The accounting system shows serious deficiencies, beginning with the main register. Until very recently, efforts were not made toachieve a real participation of all administrative and work center levels in the creation of the plan. Its methodology remained the same. A comprehensive control program was not pursued.

During most of the 5-year plan, the budget continued being a passive, nonregulating tool but encouraged spending and inadequate social consumption. It was unrelated to the material aspects of the economic plan and was lenient with the enterprises regarding their contributions to the state. In general, the demands in fulfillment of the established mechanisms were not met. Added to its few flaws, indiscipline and sectoral tendencies were added as erosion factors. On the other hand, we have not been selective. We have tried to have uniform legislation for all cases.

The economic direction and planning system regarding the efficiency of enterprises can be a complete deception if we attempt to solve their profitability by increasing the prices of products, construction, and productive services. Some prices of maintenance, construction, and transportation, to mention only a few, are flagrantly high. This only covers inefficiency and excessive payroll and spending.

I think that we still have a lot to learn concerning efficiency matters, and we must not behave like apprentices to warlocks, in other words apprentices to capitalists. If these deficiencies are not overcome, the economic system to guide and plan our economy would no longer be a leading factor in our development. [applause]

The party and the state have been aware of all the problems that still prevail in our country's economic and social development. Many of these problems were analyzed in general during a joint meeting of the party, government, [Castro coughs] and mass organizations. The meeting was held 22-24 November 1984. The appropriate decisions were adopted, and they have already had repercussions in this phase of our revolutionary activities. They will undoubtedly have further repercussions in the future.

We issued a call -- with great frankness and based on carefully analyzed arguments -- to our political and government cadres and to all the people during the national energy forum held on 4 December 1984. We urged them to become fully aware of the times and world in which to live; the privileged circumstances that surrounded the revolution; and the most sacred duties of the current revolutionary generation. Following a reasonable appeal to save fuel and raw materials, based on solid and irrefutable information, we outlined a series of basic principles that must guide our future efforts. We said our country has achieved extraordinary progress in the social sector over the last 25 years; but despite the undeniable progress that was also achieved in the production sector, we are certain that the main efforts must be exerted in the economic sector during the next 15 years. Later we added: We must give absolute priority to two things in the investment programs. Mark my words, we must give absolute priority to all the investments that save convertible currency imports or generate convertible currency exports. We must diversify exports and increase them by at least $500 million per year between 1985 and 1990. We have reached the conclusion that convertible currency exports can be increased not only to $500 million but perhaps to double that amount, to 1 billion, we said on that occasion, when referring to what must be achieved in 1990. The other essential strategic principle, the most essential of all, that we mentioned on that occasion is the following: If the socialist system established by the revolution was important for our homeland, the existence of the socialist community and the relations that the revolution established with it -- particularly with the Soviet Union -- were even more important, even more decisive, given the cooperation we were able to receive and the excellent trade terms that have been established with those countries.

We said that the products we export to the socialist area have become more valuable, and we use them to obtain more fuel, raw materials, machinery, and food. Thus, we have an unavoidable obligation, a tremendous moral obligation, which means that we must strictly fulfill our pledges for the shipment of merchandise to socialist countries, the shipment of sugar, nickel, citrus, and other goods to socialist countries. During that speech we greatly emphasized the fact that our problem is development, our problem is the future. We cannot mortgage the future for 10 additional meters of material per capita.

In other words, given that we have already solved important material and social problems, we cannot sacrifice our future to fulfill our needs for consumer goods. Close to the end we said: This does not mean that we must give up any of the progress achieved so far; it simply means that we must exert ourselves even more and improve the use of our of our resources, organization plans, and programs. We must simply improve our plans for the future; that future which we have won the right to conquer with the heroism, courage, and firmness of our people.

A few days later, on 8 December, when the federation of mid-level school students concluded their congress, we issued a strong appeal to our youths to adopt these principles. Based on the great progress achieved in the social sector and on what we could achieve in that sector, particularly concerning the quality of health, education, culture, and sports services, we said: You will have many responsibilities. The year 2000 is more yours than ours. The future is yours; what we discussed some days ago is really your obligation, not the responsibility of our current generation. You must think about the future, consolidate what we have -- which is a lot -- in the social sector, and develop an intelligent and wise economic policy that guarantees achievements in the future. Later we added: We are a country that cannot disregard its history. We were a colony for more than 400 years. We have an economy based on agriculture. We were a Yankee neocolony for approximately 60 years. We achieved our freedom and independence and started our development. We cannot harbor fantasies or be misguided by a consumer society philosophy. The youth must tell themselves: We must have what we need, the books we need, the materials we need to grow, develop ourselves -- to make ourselves physically and mentally healthy -- and, above all, to prepare ourselves for the future. That is the task of our youth if we are going to have a future, and you must be a vanguard of these ideas, aware, fully aware, that we must work for the future and invest for the future, We must not be misled by the capitalist and developed societies' consumer habits, because, among other things, they maintain their life of luxury at the expense of the rest of the world, at the expense of the hunger and death of hundreds of millions of people around the world.

During that same month, on 28 December 1984, we insistently reiterated these ideas and expanded on them before the National Assembly. At that time we said: We are men of honor and integrity, and our people have achieved great prestige, great respect, and great love within the socialist community. The more strict we are about fulfilling our commitments, the easier it is for us to gain the will, desire, and enthusiasm of others to help us. We continued, saying that two recent facts have unleashed two real revolutions: one in the area of defense and the other in the area of economy. The results the revolution has achieved in its defense plans will also be achieved in its economic plans. However, it is necessary that these plans be drafted by all the people. That was the war of all the people, and this must be the economic battle of all the people, the economic war of all the people.

At that time we also explained that the central group had been created and that it was formed by the vice presidents of the Council of Ministers and the ministers, with the participation of the secretaries and chiefs of the departments of the Central Committee and the presidents of provincial organizations of the people's government, who, based on our principles and working tirelessly, had reorganized the 1985 plan. And we explained that the same would be done for the 1986 plan, the 5-year period plan, and the perspective plan until the year 2000. We had begun a new and qualitatively superior phase of the revolution. The methods of drafting, controlling, and implementing the plans, with the participation of all the organizations and sectors, from the very beginning of their drafting, have represented an important step forward.

The year 1985 was undoubtedly one of great savings and efficiency and the year of the best economic results for the revolution. However, it is only the beginning. A test of the seriousness and consistency of the new attitude came in July 1985 when it was learned that the long and extended drought would affect 1 million tons of the 1986 sugar production. Making a huge sacrifice, our country bought, in convertible exchange, 500,000 tons of sugar so we could meet our commitments to the USSR. [applause] [Castro coughs]

Months later, shortly before the harvest began, and when our sugarcane was ready to be cut, we were hit strongly by Hurricane Kate. I will repeat this sentence because I did not read it correctly. When, a few months shortly before the harvest was to begin and the cane was ready for cutting -- there is an extra word here [laughter] -- we were strongly hit by Hurrican Kate, our people did not hesitate in putting forth heroic efforts to pick the last piece of sugarcane and produce up to the last grain of sugar that could be recovered. This is the least that could be expected.

The central group will continue to work. The structures of the state organizations will continue to be perfected. The deficient officials will continue to be replaced. [applause] We have become aware of difficulties, deficiencies, and problems that can and must be overcome, especially the need to do a skillful, vigorous, and tenacious job. We will not tolerate laziness, negligence, inability, or irresponsibility. The learning state must be behind us. It is time that we fully implement the vast experience and knowledge we have acquired in the years of the revolution. This represents unconditional commitment and devotion. [applause] [30-minute recess is announced at this point]

[At 1651 GMT Fidel Castro walks back to the podium and remarks: "We are talking about discipline and some of the delegates are late in returning." Castro then waits while the delegates return to their seats. He grimaces and then makes hand signals to an unidentified person. As the delegates continue to return en masse, Castro comments: "It is like a river."]

The aides are discussing whether we should say kilowatts, so many grams per kilowatt, or kilowatt-hour, or if we should not say that. They have been arguing about that for half an hour. Is there an electrical engineer here who perhaps could tell us how we should say that? Grams per kilowatt-hour? They have been arguing for half an hour. Is there an expert around here? Someone who knows about this? Right! Thank you. This is what we needed. No one here at the presidency knew how to resolve that problem [applause and laughter]

I believe from what the stenographers have said that when I should have said 761 young doctors are offering their services, I said 761,000. It must have been a conditioned reflex due to the fact that I have mentioned so many numbers. I apologize. It is not 761,000, but 761 young doctors who are offering their services as family doctors. Is that clear? Fine.

For those of you who are impatient, for those of you who are hungry by now -- and this happens at meetings, I know that from experience -- I have always said that what I like best about meetings is the breaks. For this reason there is the danger that people may return late from breaks. Intellectual work, unfortunately, gives people a good appetite. I have seen people who have a state of anxiety related to mental work and forget the anti-obesity campaign when they sit down to eat. For those people I want to inform that this second part will be shorter.

In order to speak about the entire effort and to encourage your spirit of unselfishness, I want to tell you that there are four parts left, but they will be shorter. The first part was the most lengthy, of course. This part will take 1 hour and 5 minutes, or 1 hour and 10 minutes. I think we are going to be on target.

Now we are going to talk about what we plan to do in the next 5-year period.

In the 1986-1990 5-year period, we plan to grow at a rate close to 5 percent annually. We can set this goal for ourselves, in spite of the unfavorable world situation, thanks to the nature of our economic relations with the socialist camp.

Exports will grow at an average annual rate of 5 percent. Imports will grow at the rate of only 1.5 percent. We will maintain the policy of reducing energy consumption. For this purpose we have prepared a national program for the rational saving of energy. The program comprises 10 big action sectors and 74 main subjects [temas]. This will allow us in 1990 to consume 10 percent less oil derivatives than we would consume if we were to maintain the 1985 consumption level, and the 1985 level has already been reduced quite a bit. Imagine the savings that 10 percent less in energy expenditures would represent between now and 1990.

Higher economic efficiency will be secured with an increase in work productivity. This work productivity will increase at an annual rate of 3.5 percent on the basis of a superior work organization that will depend on an expansion of permanent and integral work brigades and on economic estimates at the state level.

In this 5-year period, which coincides with the greatest growth in labor resources, it is expected that there will be a high employment rate. I believe very few countries can make this proposition, considering the tragedy most countries are enduring. Many industrialized capitalist countries every year have more unemployment, but we, in spite of the fact that this will be a period when the labor force will grow the most, plan to maintain a high employment level during this 5-year period.

The plan includes strong reductions in the consumption of materials such as ferrous metals, pulp, paper, and cardboard, lumber, plastic resin, bran, tires and tubes, and steel and cement bars. These reductions will be based on the implementation of organizational and technical measures that should reduce production costs by 5.9 percent.

The country will begin implementing scientific and technological programs that have been organized to direct and to consult with the country's scientific resources to resolve the most important strategic economic problems.

If we have the support of the science sector, to which many resources have been assigned, as you must have noticed -- thousands, 14,000 at the university level -- we must link those resources more to production, to the search for solutions to specific problems. We must not do like many people, who research on the subject they chose when they graduated, subjects that on many occasions have nothing to do with our real needs.

We believe that since we have a scientific potential, we must direct that potential in the right direction.

We will give no less priority to guaranteeing the importance that our country has given to the overall program for scientific-technical progress until the year 2000 recently adopted by CEMA. We will join efforts in the common task of radically increasing production, which not only has economic importance, but also great political significance.

We will invest 23.14 billion pesos in the civil sector, which represents 29 percent more than during the previous period. From this amount, 45 percent will be allocated to the industrial sector.

In order to establish the main development programs, we have thoroughly examined the country's main productive fields and activities, with the collaboration of approximately 300 high-level experts, which has resulted in a better coordinated plan. I am talking about the plan for the next [corrects himself] for the current 5-year period.

Within the development programs that have been analyzed are those related to sugarcane by-products, as well as tobacco, citrus fruits, rice and other grains, coffee, cocoa, hog-raising, the pharmaceutical industry and veterinarian pharmaceutical industry, fodder production, soil, hydraulics, shrimp-raising, platform fishing and shipyard for that industry, international tourism, electronics and computer sciences, iron and steel industry, industrial gases, oil exploration and exploitation, soaps and detergents, recovery of raw material, bottling and packing, metrological accuracy [aseguramiento metrologico], international communications, inter-city telephones, and basic services to the population.

Sugar production must increase by 15 percent. This is a significant contribution, because, for the reasons that I explained, in 1986 [as heard], we had a decrease. The mill potential per day will be increased by 5.75 million arrobas, basically as a result of the expansion of the present sugar mills, to which three others will be added.

Sugarcane agriculture must reach a total of no less than 75,000 arrobas per caballeria. For those guests who do not know what an arroba is, it is 25 pounds. A ton has 50 arrobas. A caballeria consists of 13.4 hectares; that is, some 134,000 square meters. We cannot constantly translate these measures, because we have not yet become adapted to the metric system, and we have to use these terms sometimes in order for the people to understand us, while at the same time, we are struggling to assimilate the metric decimal system.

Most of the investments for the production of unrefined sugar will be allocated to the replacement and expansion of existing industries, particularly for the agricultural infrastructure that will guarantee the supply of sugar. Plans have been made for the completion of over 23,000 houses in the sector, without including housing to be assigned to the sugarcane cooperatives.

Plans have been made for an accelerated development of sugarcane by-products, especially those to be used for feeding livestock, that is, urea [melurea], protein honey [miel proteica], predigested bagasse [bagazillo predigerido], pajumel, cane froth, green residues [residuous verdes], torula yeast, and sucrose products [sacaronices]. There will also be an appreciable increase in the production of products from bagasse [tablero de bagazo], urea-formaldehyde resin, and alcohol. We will begin to produce leavening for human consumption. Moreover, in the 5-year period, construction will begin on plants to produce furfural, glycerin [glicina], and citric acid, which will begin producing after 1990.

Non-cane agriculture will grow at an average annual rate of 45, [cuatro cinco coma] percent. Production of citrus products will again be doubled in the 5-year period, from 732,000 tons in 1985 to 1.4 million tons in 1990; that is, at a average growth rate of 13.9 percent annually. The plantations already exist. Intensive work is being done on irrigation systems; thus, it will not be difficult to double the citrus production once again in the 5-year period.

Tobacco production will increase at a rate of 6 percent annually; coffee, at 7 percent; unprocessed rice, at 4.4 percent; vegetables, at 5 percent; milk, at 4 percent; pork, at 8 percent; eggs, at 1.8 percent, although the market is practically saturated; and dressed poultry, at 1.5 percent.

Thirty thousand housing units will be built in agricultural enterprises, in addition to the sugarcane enterprises, for the use of the labor force. The food industry will grow at the rate of 3 percent a year. The production of citrus fruit preserves for export will increase at the high average rate of approximately 35 percent. The processing of beer, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages will increase at the average rate of 7 percent; beer, at 11 percent, and soft drinks, 2.5 percent, the alcoholic beverages. [sentence as heard]

Fishing production will increase from 220,000 tons in 1985 to 248,000 tons in 1990. An increase in this activity is not easy. There will be an increase in aquaculture and shrimp breeding. We plan to increase production in these areas. We plan to produce some 8,000 tons of shrimp in 1990. A great effort is needed. This is on land run like a poultry farm. Production of electrical energy will increase at an average rate of 4.3 percent annually. The rate of consumption will decrease from 260 grams of fuel oil per kwh to 240 grams. This is a significant decrease that will be achieved by putting the new installations into operation and closing some of the old ones. This is a very important savings.

The national geological expertise will yield 32 percent in 1985 and 50 percent in 1950. [sentence as heard] Oil production will reach 2 million tons and the refining of crude oil will increase by 30 percent as compared to the previous 5-year period. Liquefied and manufactured gas production will increase by 32 percent and 21 percent, respectively. With the new Punta Gorda plant, nickel and cobalt production will grow at a rate of 14 percent per year. Steel production will increase 57 percent in 1990 as compared to the 1985 production figures. The metal-working industry will grow at a yearly average rate of 9.3 percent. The manufacturing of spare parts will reach 8 percent, and the recovery rate will reach 10 percent. The electronics industry will make an important leap forward in this 5-year period.

The production of microcomputers will be developed and that of displays [preceding word in English] will be expanded. Alphanumerical keyboard microcomputers will be introduced. The technical and production base for the manufacturing of semiconductors will be consolidated. Skills will be developed, as well as the production of raw materials and material for this industry.

In addition, the production of medical apparatus, equipment, and furniture will be increased and diversified. The production of color television sets will be increased, as well as that of communications equipment. Development in this field is largely based on broad cooperation and integration with the other socialist countries. Fertilizer production will see an overall increase of 30 percent as compared to the previous 5-year period. The production of new tires and cameras will grow at a rate of 5 percent annually.

In the cellulose, paper, and cardboard industry, an overall growth of about 40 percent as compared to 1985 has been planned. In the production of containers, the strategy of preferential development of paper, cardboard, and glass containers has been adopted, based on the national supply of raw materials. The production of plastic containers will come second, with an eye on replacing metallic and textile containers. With this in mind, important investments have been planned for plants and production lines for corrugated cardboard boxes, multilayer bags, industrial bags, round containers, composite cans, foldable fiber drums, labels, stamps, cellulose moldings, glass containers, plastic flasks, metallic lids, collapsible tubes, flexible materials, films, bags, plastic lids and boxes, and new types of synthetic-weaving bags.

The production of construction materials will grow at an average annual rate of 4 percent. The production of processed marble will grow fourfold in 1990 as compared to the 1985 levels. This is logical because our current production is relatively low. The production of sanitation products will increase 70 percent in 1990 as compared to 1985. This does not take into consideration a possible new factory.

Transport will have an average annual growth of 5 percent. The investment program for the central railroad will be continued. The effort for new roadbeds will continue. Basically, however, we plan to complete a considerable number of loading and unloading centers and make considerable headway in the installation of traffic signs and the construction of railroad stations and junctions. The merchant fleet will reach a dead weight of 1,360,000 tons in 1990 with the addition of 35 new vessels. Of course, we have to take into account that some have to be retired.

We plan on receiving 1.2 million tourists during the 5-year period, about twice the number of the previous period. Toward this end, the 5-year plan provides for an ambitious investment program essentially concentrated in the tourist poles of Havana, Varadero, and Cayo Largo. This program includes the refurbishing of current facilities and the construction of new hotels and infrastructure works.

The population's standard of living will continue to increase moderately with regard to their number of personal properties, yet emphasizing the improvement of their quality and their service-rendering abilities. The people's caloric consumption rate will experience a sustained growth of 3.9 percent annual average. In 1990, approximately 3,100 calories will be consumed on a daily basis. Perhaps this figure is too high if we are really going to push our drive against obesity. In addition, this figure includes 83 grams of protein per capita.

The production of yarn and weaving materials will grow at a yearly average rate of 12 percent. There are new manufacturing plants, as you can understand. This is why the growth rate is high. Despite our current policy of diversifying and increasing exports and giving priority to development over consumption [changes thought] I refer to the end of the previous session, when I said that it is more important to assure development than to have 10 more meters of fabric to wear per year. Despite this priority of development over consumption, the per capita consumption rate will be strictly applied during the 5-year period. The consumption of personal and domestic fabrics will be increased by 6.5 square meters for 1990 as compared to 1985. This will be reflected in the availability of clothes, underwear, and housewares. This increase will help meet the people's needs not completely fulfilled otherwise. The sale of 12 million articles of clothing in 1985, including the sale to tourists, members of the diplomatic corps, etc., in our own country is estimated to jump to 75 million in 1990. In 1990, the production of footwear will nearly double as compared to 1985.

Liquefied gas will be distributed to 235,000 new homes during this period. Another 74,000 will get manufactured gas. This is to say, more than 300,000 homes will get this type of fuel.

All the projects that have been under development during the past several years will enter into production. No less than 325,000 new families, including [those in] the new houses built in the cities and the field, will receive electrical services. The state will build 185,000 housing units. That is approximately 60,000 more than in the past 5-year period. A total of 15,000 will be built through the agricultural and livestock cooperatives. State-built housing will be destined specifically to support priority investment programs and agroindustrial developments, and part will go to maintain adequate levels in the cities of Havana and Santiago de Cuba, which are two of the most critical points. To this we must add no less than 180,000 housing units that will be built through self effort. That will bring to almost 400,000 the total number of dwellings that will be built during the 5-year period.

The production of home furnishings will double in 1990 in relation to 1985. The spring mattress factory will be modernized to satisfy the projected demand for 1990. The production of bath soap will grow at an average annual rate of 13 percent; household detergents will also grow by 13 percent and toothpaste by almost 8 percent.

More than 13,000 buses will be assigned to cover urban, suburban, and intermunicipal transportation. This includes those that will be assigned to schools, factories, and other (?places) throughout the country. All city buses will be 11 meters long, except 500 articulated [articulados] ones that are longer. A large number of the suburban and intermunicipal ones will also be 11 meters long. All the other buses will be 9 meters long, or a little longer.

Five hundred four-wheel drive buses will be assigned to rural mountain transportation and 150 special buses to the national bus service. Many of the buses the provinces will receive will have diesel engines. This will save a considerable amount of fuel. These incorporations during the 5-year period will replace part of the obsolete fleet that exists, improving its technical condition, thus providing for better service.

Now what I am going to say is very important. Urban passenger transportation is abused excessively. There are patrons who ride a vehicle to travel only a few blocks. With the international price of fuel increasing up to 14-fold, and no less than four times the value of equipment -- not taking into account salary increases -- the price of urban transportation in our country has remained unchanged for 20 years. Moreover, it is even lower than the [price] that existed before the triumph of the revolution. This makes indispensable -- let this be understood well -- makes indispensable the revision of urban transportation to make the enormous amount of equipment, material, and human resources that the economy devotes to transportation more rational, more economical, and more useful. In a few words, fares will inevitably be increased in this 5-year period. The sooner the better. [applause]

During this 5-year period, 185,000 new telephones will be installed. Four new telephone centrals will be placed in operation in Havana, and four others will be expanded, making a total of 47,120 lines and 58,900 new units that will nonetheless be unable to satisfy the high demand. We must see what we will do in those new buildings, if we put at least one unit on each floor. How will we use the telephones? There are not enough to go around, no matter how many are installed.

The number of hospital beds per 1,000 inhabitants will increase from 5.4 in 1985 to 6.2 in 1990. That year there will be one doctor for every 284 inhabitants, a stomatologist for every 1,509. This medical estimate per inhabitant is relative. The ones that render services abroad are counted. The rest is relative. We are concerned that the physician be where the inhabitant is. Many countries say so many per inhabitant, but there are millions without a doctor. Meanwhile, there is a surplus of doctors in other areas. We will have a doctor where the inhabitant is, not only by inhabitant. We count them twice where the citizen is: if he is in the factory, in the factory; in the community, in the community; if he is in the hospital, in the hospital. Wherever the citizen is, as we said before, the doctor will be there.

No less than 8,000 new doctors will enter into service and 8,000 new nurses will join the family doctor program. That is, those who will join those ranks are already studying to be doctors. We will have a promotion of 3,000 doctors in 1988; 3,200 in 1988. In 1990, we will be graduating approximately 4,000. So this is [changes thought] the students who will work in this program are listening to this conversation.

Approximately 27 hospitals will be completed. This includes municipal hospitals -- they will be big hospitals, although there will be some small ones -- 45 polyclinics, 12 stomatology clinics, 87 institutions for care of the elderly, and 26 homes for the handicapped. In Havana, there will be approximately 4,000 new beds in hospitals that will be completed, expanded, and remodeled.

These include the Miguel Henriquez, Julio Trigo, Calixto Garcia, Salvador Allende, Frank Pais, Albarran, Finlay (Diaz Soto) and the new pediatric hospital in Marianao. In many of these, the laborers are already at work, and in many others they are laying the water lines.

Production of medicine will be increased 75 percent over that of the previous 5-year period, and exports of these products in 1990 will be twice that of 1985.

In education, there will be a structural change in registration as a result of the modification of the age structure, because there has been an increase in the population aged 0 to 4 years and over 17 years. The increase in people over 17 is the result of the last population explosion, and there is an increase in children aged 0 to 4 years because there has been a new explosion, not as large as the last one, but an explosion just the same because the former group has entered what the specialists would call the fertile age. Meanwhile, the 6-to-17-year-old group is decreasing, a circumstance that the plan for investment in new capabilities will take into account. The number of students in higher education will be similar to that of 1985, which was 35 students for each 1,000 inhabitants over 17 years of age.

More than 8,500 movie seats will be added by 1990, 50 percent of them in the eastern provinces, and over 5,000 in theaters and cinemas.

To revitalize the efforts related to the system for directing the economy, it has been decided to create a national commission, attached to the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers. It will be in charge of supervising and perfecting the application of the system. The commission will be an independent organization, headed by a minister, which will serve as a center for the direction, coordination, promotion, and control of all tasks related to the methods and mechanisms of direction. The commission will be made up of representatives of the various organizations of the state who will collectively debate and analyze the problems related to the system as a whole and thereby achieve a close coordination among all the factors involved in directing the national economy. It will also include a group of highly qualified and experienced specialists.

Efforts are being made to reform wholesale prices with an eye to applying the reforms during the 5-year period.

This 1986-1990 plan, which we have outlined very sketchily, is part of the strategy for development up to the year 2000 which we continue perfecting, while proceeding to a broader coordination of long-term plans with the socialist countries.

In the economic area, the basic objective of that strategy is to accelerate the country's process of industrialization. Key factors in the future economic development and in the industrialization process require an increase in and diversification of exports, replacement of imports, especially imports from the capitalist camp, the strengthening of the integration of the domestic economy, utilization of natural resources, renewed efficiency of social production with economic use of all resources, especially imported resources, the recovery and recycling of raw materials while protecting the environment, utilization of available goods, integration of the investment process, giving it priority from the viewpoint of its impact on the balance of payments, concentration on a number of projects that are already under way to reduce investment in the completion process and to put them into operation sooner, and a vigorous effort to ensure that improvements in the standard of living are based solely on real development and the country's own resources.

Our socialist integration into CEMA will be strengthened. Greater emphasis will be placed on the preferential development of the metalworking and electronics industries, light industry, pharmaceuticals, and biotechnology, and on the production of sugarcane derivatives as important bases for generating new exportable funds.

International tourism will be promoted as an important source of foreign exchange. Agricultural development will be intensified, ensuring that intensive exploitation of the land and an increase in its productivity will be the main factors in increasing traditional exports from that sector and in increasingly satisfying the people's nutritional needs.

Priority will be given to measures designed to achieve the economical and rational use of fuels and other material resources, as well as the optimum utilization of productive plants, which must be modernized with preference given to investment in new installations.

Scientific-technical development will be geared toward meeting the needs of the economy and to promoting nuclear science and technology for peaceful uses, biotechnology, electronics, and computer sciences, as well as other advanced sciences, which will be the bases of the country's future progress. Due attention will be paid to the development of industrial design.

All efforts must be directed toward a sustained increase in the productivity of labor -- at the same time that we ensure full employment of labor resources -- toward a reduction in costs, and toward an increased profitability of enterprises; in short, toward efficiency.

This strategy reflects the experience gained by the revolution in more than 25 years, the ideas and concepts adopted by the party and the government in December 1984, and the economic guidelines and draft party program that will be analyzed during this congress.

Guaranteeing the defense of the fatherland, without which we would not be able to give a review of the work of our party and our people, or think about 5-year plans and prospects, was one of our most intensive, heroic, and fruitful efforts in the past 5 years.

Within the limitations imposed by discretion in speaking of this topic, stating exclusively only that which can be stated and revealing all the data that can be revealed on the many advances that have been made, I will list the following: During this 5-year period, our concept of the war of all the people crystalized and was significantly enriched by adapting our military doctrine to it. Based on these new concepts, war time plans have been developed and refined at all levels of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] and for all the country. The organic structure of the large units of the FAR's regular troops were improved, making possible the availability of rapid reaction formations, permanent combat readiness, high levels of mechanization, high fire power, high maneuvering capabilities, and independence to wage combat actions up to the level of small units. The troops of the Daafar [Antiaircraft Defense and Revolutionary Air Force], and the Revolutionary Navy forces, with the introduction of more modern weaponry and techniques, have qualitatively increased the possibilities of staging a rapid response to enemy actions.

The FAR's mobilization system was improved by significantly reducing the number of armaments that would have to be transported and the transportation of personnel over lengthy distances. This increases the troops' vitality in the event of a surprise attack, allows the reduction by several hours of the time necessary to place units in total combat preparedness, and saves an important amount of resources.

Work was done in conjunction with government agencies to organize hundreds of special units of different kinds for a more rational and coherent utilization of the forces and means that the economy possesses. More than 500,000 reservists have been trained, both individually and within small units, to improve quality, make regrouping efforts simpler, and improve the training of regular troops. During the 5-year period, more than 100,000 fellow countrymen carried out internationalist missions. Important contingents with better training have rejoined our reserves. Many of them possess combat experience.

The training programs for the troops, general staffs, and military teaching centers were improved in accordance with the concept of the war of all the people and with the object of achieving a more all-inclusive training program that will prepare them to wage combat in conditions of technological superiority over the enemy and make them adept in combined warfare actions, that is, regular and unconventional warfare. A system to prepare special units was created and developed in many centers established for this purpose and where tens of thousands of regular troops have been trained, as well as troops of the territorial militias. Work has been done to bring women into the active military service and increasingly on the efforts to promote women to officer.

During the 5-year period, more than 7,000 new officers conducted studies in military education centers in Cuba and abroad. In that same period, 200 officers obtained candidacies to doctorates in science. Military service and higher education were brought together and nine military college preparatory schools were established. This makes it possible to send to the universities an increasing number of youths who have completed their military service and who while they study also prepare to be reserve officers. In the past several years, more than 5,000 youths entered universities that way.

In keeping with the agreements of the last congress, officers' standards of living and employment conditions continued to be improved. In this sense, the construction of 20,840 housing units deserves special mention. However, great needs persist, particularly in western Cuba, which is the most densely populated, defense-wise.

The capacity to repair weaponry and technical equipment was doubled during the 5-year period. In cooperation with the national economy, the necessary steps were taken to develop and manufacture light weapons of various kinds. Primitive armaments for the defense areas, municipalities, and provinces began to be manufactured.

The Society for Military-Patriotic Education has made a great effort with regard to our youths' partiotic military training and has almost 220,000 members grouped in 5,824 base organizations. The Youth Labor Army made an important contribution to the economy by supplying approximately 40 million tons of sugarcane to the sugar refineries. Its units are organized in combat battalions and armed [armadas] companies. All of its members fulfilled their special combat preparedness plan.

More than 70,000 officers received training for the Territorial Militia Troops. In 1984, all of the units established during the first phase of this colossal force had completed training. In a brief 5 years, almost 1.5 million men and women were trained for incorporation into the nation's defense through the Territorial Militia Troops.

In 1985, 14 and 15-year-old students began their preliminary training and formed small reserve units. So far, nearly 150,000 of these young people, authorized by their parents, have joined the reserve units. This gives us an idea of the people's massive and full participation in the defense of the homeland. The arms and ammunition of the Territorial Militia Troops are widely scattered. This considerably increases their protection and reduces the time required for the mobilization of these units. In 1984, defense zones were organized all over the country and all attained a ready-for-defense status, as well as the 179 municipalities. All the members of the zone defense councils were given preparatory courses. In addition, more than 100,000 leaders, seconds in command, and other officers of production and defense brigades have been trained. We can assert that nearly 80 percent of our population's able-bodied men and women have been organized, this is to say, men and women physically able to fight regardless of age. Means have been provided for their active participation in defense. [applause]

Millions of weapons of all kinds, millions of grenades and antitank and antipersonnel mines, most of them either purchased abroad or manufactured in the country in only 5 years, constitute our arsenal. To this, we must add a huge number of various primitive, yet effective arms that our people have learned to make.

A considerable effort was made in the preparation of the party and state leadership at all levels. More than 100,000 have been trained for their functions. These, together with Territorial Militia Troops, production and defense brigades, and others, make up a total of approximately 300,000 who have been trained for the various missions in these years. All the provincial defense councils, the municipalities, and their staffs have their principal and reserve leadership posts and their working plans. Party and mass organization structures for times of war have been perfected and consolidated. The country's single communications plan has been devised and is being perfected to ensure leadership in this situation.

Progress has been achieved in the automation of the command procedures of the staffs through the use of computer techniques. The early warning system all over the country has been substantially improved with the installation of automatic systems. The organization of antiaircraft defense by the people has begun. During the 1981-1985 period, the operational conditioning in the theaters of military operations aimed at increasing protection for troops, command, technique, arms, and reserves of all kinds has been completed. Master plans were devised and systematic work was carried out to prepare the support bases in protected regions.

The full decentralization of permanent FAR troops was ensured, basically regarding the methods, arms, and the protection of personnel. Progress has been made in the preparation of the defense system of large units. Work has been carried out in the construction and preparation of tens of thousands of protection works for the population and workers in the country's territory and economic targets that would continue production and services in times of war. The country's agricultural and livestock production has been structured in this framework. The Armed Forces' fuel reserves have been widely scattered and masked in several separate modules. Speleological formations have been organized for times of war in the provinces and municipalities and those of defense zones are being prepared.

Finally, 9,447 students graduated from the 16 Camilo Cienfuegos vocational and military schools over the period. The enemy will not find us unprepared, disorganized, unarmed, or unaware. What has been done in so short a time is impressive. This demonstrates our people's ability to organize and mobilize. This small country did not let itself be intimidated by the world's most powerful imperialist power and has created the conditions to inflict a shameful defeat to this power should it attack our homeland. [applause]

The tradition created by the lonely Granma fighters germinated when they believed and demonstrated, after Alegria de Pio, that as long as there is a man who wields a rifle and a just idea, war is not lost. [applause]

The "Fatherland or death, we will win" slogan is not an empty phrase. The generations that in the past century initiated and continued our independence would be proud of the people who today defend their flags, ideas, and example. When the history of our time is written, even if we do not have to undergo the hard test of a total battle against an imperialist aggression, these years will remain the most glorious that our homeland has lived through. The very same fact that we did not have to pass this test would show that we succeeded in making the empire think it over. Also, one cannot quickly forget the generosity of the Soviet Union when they quickly responded to our need for arms. [applause]

Therefore, along with heroism, a brilliant page of internationalism was also written. We will continue to strengthen our defense over the next several years at the same pace and with the same energy and determination to make it more solid and inexpungnable. Today we can repeat with more reason, justification, and force than ever that which we said during the first party congress: So long as imperialism exists the party, state, and people will afford defensive services a maximum of their attention.

The Revolutionary Guard will never let its guard down. History eloquently teaches that those who forget this principle do not survive their error. [applause]

The security and internal order forces' tasks are twofold. They must defend the revolutionary process by fighting against the counterrevolutionary activities of imperialism and its agents and by fighting crime. The security agencies continued to increase their reaction capabilities and were able to neutralize enemy activities opportunely and effectively. They gained experience, increased their technical and professional know-how, and strengthened their indissoluble ties with the people who have always afforded them warmth, support, and trust. Throughout more than 25 years the security agencies have always given the best of themselves. Their men have always been willing to make any sacrifice and carry out any mission. No matter how hard it may have been, they took risks, thus establishing a legendary tradition of efficiency and success when confronting the enemy. That tradition continues and will continue to be enriched.

To the extent that the consolidation of the revolution advanced, the Interior Ministry was able to devote more attention to internal order problems and the struggle against crime. In the period we are reviewing a large part of its effort was directed toward this goal.

In the conditions under which we undertook the task to build a socialist society with the world's most powerful imperialist country nearby, we cannot underestimate antisocial behavior, even if it has no political connotations. Meanwhile, the current effort to extend and develop the revolution's moral work and guarantee our people's well-being commits us to a task that includes prevention and the appropriate response to criminal behavior. This responsibility concerns all of society and it is shared by the state institutions and the political and mass organizations.

During these years new experiences have been obtained, heightened, and expanded to counter these kinds of behavior, which range from family maladjustments, simple cases of indisipline, and violation of the rules for social coexistence, to actions that are openly criminal in nature. The essential conclusion is that crime must be fought on the basis of the principle of prevention. This does not exclude rigorous and firm treatment of those cases that require it. The evaluation and correct treatment of these problems have allowed the establishment of a policy to reincorporate into society citizens who have committed minor crimes or those who are first-time offenders who have behaved well enough to deserve this opportunity.

During these years, in placing more attention on economic activities, several symptoms of relaxation and even isolated instances of fraud and mishandling of funds were observed in the retail business network, restaurants, and other service organizations. These were dealt with decisively. The most important experience obtained from the treatment of this situation is that prison terms are not the most effective way of handling the problem or the means that should prevail in the struggle against crime. Administrative tensions when these are appropriate, the strengthening of controls, the discipline and responsibility of government officials and of workers in general, as well as the selection of personnel and the development and expansion of sustained political and ideological work has been undertaken in those sectors.

The Interior Ministry continued its persistent and incessant struggle to reduce the number of traffic accidents that take the lives of and injure citizens and damage the people's property. We must organize, rationalize, make easier, and guarantee the circulation of traffic and the safety of people; prevent and fight fires with the many times heroic and always swift and efficient effort of the men charged with this task; prevent and counter actions and acts of negligence or irresponsibility that harm our economy or damage the people's resources; cooperate with the courts in the application of the law; and afford each home and fellow countryman security and confidence.

Despite rain, insects, hot or cold weather, men whose eyes are always bright as they maintain a permanent watch over the enemy are guarding our coasts day and night. [applause]

The Interior Ministry's activities are not few. It carries out a constant and daily battle. It has the difficult responsibility of reprimanding, of confronting and correcting, day by day, anything that is not consonant with, or falls short of the adequate social behavior. This includes anyone who exceeds speed limits; a pedestrian who crosses a street without following street signals; or anyone who promotes a scandal, steals, or kills -- although fortunately, the crime rate in our country is very low.

For this reason, the conduct of the Interior Ministry's fighters must be spotless, irreproachable, portraying a unique and special clean image, because everywhere, more than citizens, they are symbols of authority, law, moral values, respect for their compatriots, and the values of the socialist state. The enemies of the revolution, the lawbreakers, and the criminals have never hated or will ever hate anyone more than the Interior Ministry fighters. No one will receive more attention or face more calumnies from them. Hence, fully aware of their noble and unselfish role, they must always demand much from themselves. They should fight firmly against any demonstration of personal profit, corruption, vanity, scorn for the people and their values, and anything that could create favorable conditions for envy and for the enemy's destructive calumny.

A good example of the spirit and conduct of the Interior Ministry's men and women was given in recent days, when they decided to deliver to the provincial people's power for the use of the population, health, sports, and recreational facilities that had been built during the 5-year period to cover the institution's needs. [applause]

We are sure that in defending our security and domestic order, our people, party, state institutions, branches of the people's power and mass organizations will support the Interior Ministry in the development of the new tasks that our country's conditions demand from the institution.

The Interior Ministry's men and women will become more and more worthy of the people and party's unlimited confidence, always learning from the inexhaustible encyclopedia of experience, and always showing a higher level of maturity, responsibility, efficiency, while each time linked more to the people as an inseparable part of the people. [applause] [another 30-minute break is announced at this point.]

[Castro resumes speaking at 1957 GMT] In these years, the National Assembly of the People's Power, as the supreme organ of the state, has continued consolidating its prestige and authority in the national and international spheres. Cuba's recent entry into the Latin American Parliament was a great expression of solidarity with our country, a gesture of recognition of and respect for the democratic and popular values of our revolutionary process.

Exchanges of working delegations with many parliaments have been increased and strengthened. There has been increased participation by deputies in debates during National Assembly sessions, with a qualitative improvement of the role that they play, both in the Assembly and in the territories for which they were elected.

Reports rendered by ministries and provincial assemblies have actually promoted a strong mass movement to achieve better results in meeting production plans and in services in general. During the period, important laws were approved, such as the agricultural cooperative law, the labor code, the law on innovations and rationalizations, the public security law, and the general housing law.

As you know, under the housing law, present and future tenants become the owners of the housing units through the conversion of the lease into a long-term purchase agreement with the same payments as were paid in rent, with the exception of a number of housing units linked to particular centers of production and services, which will be handled differently.

Two hundred thousand property deeds have already been handed out under this program. Cuba is the first country to apply legislation of this kind. With it, we fully complied with a principle, since this was a part of the Moncada program. Moreover, the state has renounced any idea of profit from the construction of housing -- in which there is so much abuse in capitalist societies.

The National Assembly has worked on organizing socialist legislation and has improved the work of its permanent working commission. Labor relations between the local organs of the people's power and the state's central administrative organizations have become increasingly closer as they work to achieve their goals. An important role has been played in this by the National Assembly and the office to attend to the local organs of the people's power, which is an agency of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers.

The local organs of the people's power have made notable advances in their internal functioning and in the results of their economic efforts. Special attention has been given to the production of exportable items and spare parts, and to economizing in general. There has been positive support for the sugarcane, tobacco and coffee harvests and for the cooperative movement.

The local organs of the people's power have devoted special attention to matters of the country's defense in these past years. Their achievements in this regard have been considerable. They have paid particular attention to problems presented by the people, have increased the number of problems that were resolved satisfactorily, and have provided the right answer to those problems that could not be resolved immediately.

Some 98.7 percent of the electors participated in the 1981 and 1984 electoral processes. An increase in the number of women elected by the local organs of the people's power has been noted. In the assemblies in which the delegates rendered accounts to their electors, and in the elections held during the 5-year period, the massive, enthusiastic, and democratic manner in which our people supervise the processes and support the efforts of the socialist state was clearly demonstrated.

The activity of the judicial organs has been examined by the party and government, in view of the lack of duly qualified, experienced jurists to serve as judges, prosecutors, and lawyers. In 1983 the Politburo examined the status of the training of jurists and the practice of the law. It approved a working program, the application of which -- with the resolute participation of several administrative organizations of the state, the universities and the National Union of Cuban Jurists -- will make it possible to meet the basic demand for such specialists before the end of the 1986-1990 5-year period, and will help to expedite the ongoing process of eliminating the deficiencies in the judicial process and in juridical activities in general.

The reorganization of collective legal offices brought about an improvement in the competence [competicion] of lawyers, with the incorporation into that profession of young jurists who, with a new concept of their role, are helping to improve the quality of legal services to the public.

Finally, it is necessary for the Ministry of Justice, in close cooperation with the People's Supreme Court, to continue to improve the people's courts and, with the participation of the Office of the Attorney General, to complete the overall review of the legislation related to the judicial system, in order to more precisely define the functions of each of these institutions.

The effort made, the success achieved, the feats that take place daily, and the projections for the future could never be possible without the close unity between our party and the people.

In that unity, with their voluntary and conscious adherence to the party, with their support, their steady work in the factories, in the agricultural, construction, transportation fields, schools, hospitals, universities, in the defense of our homeland and internationalist missions, in the renewed and constant alertness as an eternal fire, wherever our homeland vibrates, the mass organizations are present, and more than present, omnipresent. Nothing would be possible without them. For this reason, we must summarize their work before the party congress, even if it is a short summary due to the time factor.

The labor union movement, which includes 99.5 percent of the total labor force of nearly 3 million among its ranks, managed to become closer to its rank and file, improved the structure, improved its style and method of work, and demonstrated its prestige and authority before the masses.

The labor unions have rendered important services to the revolution in these years. They actively participated in preparing for defense in all work centers of the nation. Over 40,000 greeted National Defense Day and announced they had complied with their commitments. The labor union movement contributed nearly 100 million pesos to finance the Territorial Troops Militia.

During the 5-year period, the labor unions definitely contributed to increasing the efficiency of the economic activities and to the achievements in the economic and social development, making efforts which many times bordered on the heroic.

They also contributed definitely to saving energy resources, raw materials, additional materials, and other resources. The results total several hundred million pesos throughout 1983, 1984, and 1985. They also contributed very much to the important program of manufacturing and production of spare parts.

The National Association of Innovators and Efficiency Experts [ANIR], which has 73,000 members and 6,165 rank and file committees, contributed to solving important problems of our economy. The mobilization of the most productive volunteer cane cutters and the level of organization reached by the brigade during the 5-year period increased the productivity of each cane cutter from 244 arrobas daily in 1981 to 333 during the last harvest, which enabled us to decrease the mobilization by several tens of thousands of men.

The labor unions actively cooperated in bringing in the permanent brigades in the sugar and agricultural sectors, and integrated brigades in industries. Currently, they are trying to extend and improve this new form of organizing work.

In the field of labor legislation, 90,000 cadres were trained annually. Over 1 million workers graduated from the various systems of education, and over 800,000 are studying. Over 670,000 graduated from the 9th grade during this 5-year term.

A total of 100,000 workers are amateurs participating in cultural activities and approximately 1 million have participated in sports events.

The CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], whose expenses had increased, did a better job of collecting, increased its revenue, and managed to adhere to its prestigious tradition of self-financing all of its expenses. Thousands of workers received decorations, medals, and distinctions for their exceptional merits in production and services, and over 40 of them have the honor of being awarded the title of Heroes of Workers of the Republic of Cuba.

The 10th World Trade Union Congress held in our country in 1982 and the Latin American and Caribbean Workers Trade Union Conference that discussed the crucial problem of the foreign debt constituted the most important events with international repercussions. The prestige of the CTC among the international organization of workers has increased considerably.

With an adequate rate and with moderate but solid steps, the National Association of Small Farmers [ANAP] is carrying out the most important historical task ever entrusted by the party in this stage of the construction of socialism in our country.

That task is the development of the cooperative movement -- in other words, the development of our small individual farms into superior, scientific, and highly productive methods of exploiting the land. Progress is evident in the fact that although it has only been a few years since this movement began, the number of Agricultural-Livestock Cooperatives [CPA] amounted to 1,378 in 1985, covering 75,168.4 caballerias of land, equivalent to 1,072,055.5 hectares, which thus increases to 61.3 percent the land being tilled by the workers, who eliminated the system of parcels and went on to higher levels of production.

During the current 5-year term, the cooperatives increased their average size from 220.7 hectares to 792 hectares. The trend to form very large cooperatives must be avoided, in view of the fact that there are not enough cadres among the peasants who are experts and leaders, and these cannot be trained in a day. ANAP has worked in training the CPA presidents and other leadership cadres, a task which must be supported and promoted.

In order to take care of social problems, the cooperatives have built 19,156 housing units of various types, most of them with top quality materials and products. A total of 822 cooperatives have been connected to the national energy system or to independent plants in order to provide them with electricity in this 5-year term. It is good policy not to hasten things, to advance gradually, consolidate achievements, and hold fast to the principle of very strict volunteer spirit. There are 86 cooperatives striving to produce 100,000 quintals per year of food, vegetables, and grains, and 14 of them have already reached that figure. One of them, the Aniceto Perez from Havana Province, produced over 300,000 quintals in 1985.

Many cooperatives have had excellent results, making better use of the land and the technical, material, and human resources. The families, and particularly the women and children, have received the benefits of a more humane life, less isolated, and with possibilities of receiving services that would not be within the reach of the isolated peasant.

We must pay special attention to the production cooperatives that engage in the production of coffee and cacao, in the mountains, where the topographic characteristics of those remote areas make their activities more complex.

The social security law issued on 28 August 1979 has already benefited 29,500 cooperative peasants. The peasant organizations have proclaimed that they have fulfilled their commitment in the battle for the 9th grade, they have developed study circles, and they have carried out many cultural and political activities. The peasant sector has devoted its enthusiastic and firm support to the MTT, to its financing, and to creating and preparing the areas of defense.

Encouraged by the progress made since the victory of our liberation struggle and in view of the success of its current efforts and always a firm ally of the working class along with the rest of the working people, the Cuban peasants will fulfill with honor the new tasks assigned by the party and the revolution, as they are loyal to their glorious mambisa [Cuban separatists in 1868] traditions.

The Federation of Cuban Women [FMC] has continued increasing its ranks and it has a membership of 3,100,000, representing 30 percent of the women in the country, which means there is a large sector of women incorporated into the revolution.

The quality of work has continued improving also. Evidence of this is the Fourth FMC Congress, which showed the solid nature of that organization as well as the thorough and critical manner in which the FMC has handled the problems that are still hindering full equality for women. Progress was made in this aspect during the 5-year term. Women currently represent 37.3 percent of the country's active labor force in the civilian state sector, as compared to 32.4 percent in 1980. Women represent 55.4 percent of the technical forces. In other words, half of the superior technical professionals are women.

The proportion of women in leadership positions has increased, although moderately. Women represent 13.8 percent of the party's cadres. This figure is lower in the executive bureaus of the municipalities and provinces. In a similar fashion, there has been fair progress made in promoting women to responsibilities within the state, the administration, and the local organizations of people's power.

In the forthcoming years, we must continue struggling hard to enforce the party's policy for the complete liberation of women. This will require a constant endeavor for the creation of material conditions that will be more favorable for this purpose, and it particularly demands maintaining an effective ideological effort, mainly an educational effort, and an unyielding struggle in the face of the prejudices and the discriminatory attitudes that are still hindering women from making use of their full potential in the home as well as in the labor and social life.

We must continue increasing the participation of women in positions of responsibility and leadership to a level commensurate with their capabilities, experience, revolutionary knowledge, and the convictions which they have displayed.

This struggle, as well as all efforts for women's equality, is a task that concerns our entire society: the party, the UJC [Union of Young Communists], the FMC, the other trade unions, and the mass and student organizations, as well as state organizations.

Throughout these years, the FMC has favorably fulfilled its various tasks that should emphasize the efforts made in order to incorporate the housewives in the battle for the 9th grade: 99,392 companeras have graduated and 18,048 are now studying. The FMC has continued giving multilateral support to the school tasks, and over 1.5 million women have joined the Movement of Fighting Mothers for Education.

In the field of public health, their oustanding contribution is reflected -- among other things -- in carrying out over 2 million cytological tests during the 5-year term, the tetanus vaccination of the housewives, and the effective task carried out by the 58,000 health brigade workers. The FMC carried out the systematic work of mobilization in the defense tasks. A total of 1.8 million FMC members voiced their willingness to join the MTT.

Our possibilities for armament and organization enabled us to incorporate in an effective manner over 500,000 women. Meanwhile, over 20,000 companeras were trained as command cadres. Thousands of Cuban women have fulfilled and are fulfilling excellent internationalist missions. An example of the international prestige of the FMC, its close ties of work, and its organizational capabilities is the Meeting on the Situation of Women Today in Latin America and the Caribbean that was held here with approximately 300 participants from the area.

The intense activity carried out by the Cuban delegation that attended the UN World Conference of the Decade of Women held in Nairobi along with the other progressive and revolutionary forces helped to combat imperialism from the United States, which sought to discredit the analysis and evaluation of the basic problems that restricted the participation of women in the economic, political, social, and cultural life of each country. They also played a decisive role in the presence and unity of the Latin American and Caribbean representation in that event.

The participation of Cuban women in each and every task ordered by the revolution and the party in these years is worthy of admiration and recognition.

The Committees for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] currently have 6,537,000 members, which represents 83.9 percent of the population over 14 years old. In the last 5-year period, membership increased by 1,214,000 [hesitates] membership increased by incorporating the youths who reached the minimum age. The Second CDR Congress held in 1981 outlined specific goals in its many work forms, particularly in order to strengthen its basic task, which is revolutionary surveillance.

The organization worked in order to fulfill its agreements and contribute, in the first place, to the struggle of all the people to prevent, detect, and fight criminal and antisocial behavior. Some progress has been made to this effect, but it is necessary to increase even more the surveillance tasks and make sure that the goals are reached in order to achieve a greater efficiency in the development of this activity, which has been an extraordinary instrument in the defense of the achievements and the tranquillity of our people.

The CDR continued carrying out important political and ideological tasks, including the mobilization of the masses to support the local organizations of people's power, particularly participating in the meetings where the reports are presented and in preparing and carrying out elections that are held in the electoral districts.

Blood donations amounted to 1,134,936 in the 5-year period. The systematic fulfillment of this task as of 1982 has facilitated the production of hemo-derivatives and interferon and work is under way to respond suitably to the country's needs by the year 2000.

Another important form of support for the health tasks has been the work carried out by the CDR in educating the masses in the area of sanitation at their popular meetings as well as actively participating in the campaigns against the epidemics of dengue, conjunctivitis, gastroenteritis, and other diseases.

During this 5-year period, 3,906,753 vaccinations were given to the country's children.

The CDR have supported the economic strategy outlined by the party and government directorate with an outstanding effort to save and conserve raw materials. There are vast possibilities to continue increasing these valuable contributions by the CDR.

The CDR advanced in the tasks connected with partiotic-military education and did outstanding work supporting the creation of the defense zone and outlining the measures for the evacuation of the people.

Also decisive was their contribution to the preparation, organization, and mobilization of all the people in making the various zone-municipalities ready for defense.

The CDR will begin preparing their third congress shortly. The Assembly process, beginning among the rank and file, will provide a manificent chance to further advance the implementation of the organization's cadre policy and to incorporate more women and young people into the directive posts. The party will provide all its support and control to this policy. The agreements adopted at that event will undoubtedly contribute to the continuity and improvement of the CDR's meritorious work.

In placing a high value on the work carried out by this organization in recent years, the party reaffirms its confidence in the CDR's many possibilities for mobilization as well as in their enthusiasm and immense energy. As until now, they will continue to be, among our people, not only hardened defenders, but also industrious and tireless artisans in the work of the revolution.

The ranks of the Federation of University Students [FEU] and of the Federation of Intermediate Level Students [FEEM] today comprise more than 459,000 students. They represent the beautiful and promising fruit of the revolution's efforts and are the best guarantee of its advance in the future.

During these years, the FEEM and the FEU have intensified their efforts to eradicate attitudes marked by conformism and finality, and have stepped up the struggle against superficiality in study and for the systematic use of textbooks.

The processes developed at the second FEU Congress and the Sixth FEEM Congress have bolstered their activities and prestige. Both student organizations have continued giving priority attention to the link between study and work. Their role as representatives of the students' concerns and interests has been heightened.

During this period, the working methods of both the FEU and the FEEM were both bolstered and simplified. The increasing consolidation of the role of the organizations at the levels of classrooms and brigades continues to be an important goal.

Both the FEU and the FEEM have given special attention to the tasks in support of the health area. Outstanding among these was the formation of the Carlos J. Finlay Medical Sciences Detachment in the ranks of which more than 18,000 future doctors are currently training, the creation of the Commander (Piti) Fajardo Medical Detachment for Rural Service, the incorporation of students of this specialty to internationalist tasks, and the support given to the revolutionary family doctor program.

The work carried out among the medical science students represented an important contribution to the goal of perfecting as much as possible the training of the future medical and paramedical personnel.

Attention has continued to be given to the incorporation of young people into the University's Manuel Ascunce Domenech Pedagogical Detachment where priority is given to mathematics, chemistry, and physics, as well as to selection from among its members of the youths who comprise the Ernesto Che Guevara Internationalist Detachment.

Last year's national meeting of technical science students gave valuable support to the decision of party and state to bolster these areas as the strategic bases for the country's economic development.

Important changes were introduced in student emulation, mainly aimed at accelerating the struggle for quality in education while eliminating anything in it that might encourage self-promotion. However, it is essential to be more demanding in evaluating all emulation rates and to rid the analyses of schematic and superficial elements.

The quality and existence of incentives have been guaranteed, even though at times the student does not receive them at the right moment, or in the right fashion in order to feel the recognition and tribute that their granting implies.

In recent years an important part of the activities of both the FEEM and the FEU has included attention to the formal education and social conduct of the students, as well as the struggle against any form of academic fraud. However, we cannot yet be satisfied with what has been achieved in these areas. In the future it will be necessary to promote much more demanding, tenacious, and effective work in order to eliminate the harmful phenomena that still influence the young generation's moral and revolutionary formation.

Each year during the vacation period, students comprised student work brigades, mobilization plans were established in accordance with the real needs of the economy, and the level of social recognition deserved by this activity was raised. Particular emphasis must be placed on the mobilizations of the FAR units due to their political importance, and as a guideline in materializing the students' participation in the defense tasks.

The student organizations favored the preparation of youths for defense and their contribution to the financing of the MTT. Through their organization, 14-and 15-year old students demanded incorporation into this force.

In a general sense, our students have reaffirmed the decision to defend the homeland as well as the achievements made by socialism and to offer their internationalist contribution whenever necessary. Work has been carried out -- and this will be insisted on in the future -- to turn the young generation into the standard bearer of economization and to train our students in the mentality of producers.

It was precisely at the closing of the Sixth FEEM Congress that we made an appeal to young people to be the standard bearers of the year 2000 in building socialism in our homeland. No one can be harbingers of the boldest ideas, the forgers of their own future, and the defenders of the work that our generation has handed over to them as well as they can.

Nearing its first quarter of a century, the Jose Marti Organization of Pioneers [OPJM] has 1,722,603 members in its ranks. This represents 99.5 percent of all the students enrolled in primary and secondary schools. Thousands of party militants and all the members of the UJC today proudly remember their Pioneer years.

During this last 5-year period, the organization carried out a substantial transformation of its functioning mechanisms and managed to make its various activities more vital and attractive. The tasks in support of the teaching-educational process were attended to through better organization of emulation and the development of activities intended to raise the level of responsibility of the Pioneers vis-a-vis studying. Our Pioneers' work, with their support and participation in various productive tasks, also stood out, as well as a greater dynamism and effectiveness with regard to the emulation established to that end.

They also made an enthusiastic and beautiful contribution to the defense tasks and carried out multiple patriotic activities, which instill in them the purest feelings and ideals of socialism. In addition, despite the limited available resources, advances continued to be made in development of the material basis for work with the Pioneers. Today we have 345 Pioneer installations that can receive over 1 million children each year. This has contributed positively to their development. The OPJM's increasing role and prestige result from the permanent attention given to it by the party, the UJC, and the daily work of thousands of guides, teachers, and society in general.

The experiences gained in this area put us in a better position to continue advancing in the coming years. In the future, a struggle should be waged to continue improving work style and methods. The work involving children and adolescents must be more attractive and have more substantial contents every day. It must be of higher quality, and it will be geared toward enabling the Pioneers to value their culture, develop initiative, practice discipline conscientiously, behave well, be honest, be brave, and realize that their main task is to study well and get good grades. Today's Pioneers are the guarantee of the future and the certain replacement of our heroic youth.

The UJC has continued intensifying its presence and work in various sectors of the national life. During the period that has elapsed since the second congress was held, the UJC has increased its ranks by more than 175,000 members. Total figures reach 597,853, including militants and aspirants. This increase came about alongside a marked increase in the demands connected with the requirements for admittance, especially in the student sector. In becoming a member of the UJC, self-rigor is now the only factor regulating growth. The youths connected with production, education, and services represent 59 percent of the total number, students total 20 percent, and the workers comprise 26 percent. [all figures as heard]

The functioning of the rank and file organizations and directive bodies has been bolstered. Another positive measure entailed the simplification of the methods and mechanisms for the control and orientation of tasks. This makes it possible to dedicate more time to direct contacts with militants, youths, and Pioneers; to improve the quality of the work carried out by the rank and file organizations; and to struggle to rid their meetings of schematic aspects, at times prescheduled by the higher organizations.

It is necessary to continue insisting on the need to direct the attention of the UJC toward the main problems at each center, the education of its militants, and the political-ideological work with the mass of youths, while increasingly giving to the organization's activities a dynamic nature that is appropriately youthful.

In training the Communist youths as future party militants, greater demands are now made before granting endorsement, in line with the view that this is not merely a possibility for all those who fulfill their duties, but a recognition for those who march in the vanguard within the organization.

The UJC has accorded special importance to its cadre policy. The promotion of younger comrades to the leadership tasks in the UJC has made it possible to suitably stagger its leaders' ages in the various bodies, and has provided greater stability to its leadership bodies. Also, the social composition has improved, as well as the presence of women in the leadership bodies and among the professional cadres. Women in the leadership posts and cadres went from 14.3 percent in 1980 to 19.5 percent in 1985. This rate is still low, if we consider that girls constitute 41 percent of the total membership of the organization.

The decision to process the principal leaders of the UJC's rank and file organizations -- which are important work centers -- and the directive cadres for admission into the party is of special value. Similarly, the inclusion of the first secretaries of the UJC in the executive bureaus of the party's municipal and provincial bureaus has represented a notable incentive for the youths' cadre work, as well as an expansion of the party's relations with and influence on that youth organization.

During this 5-year period, hundreds of UJC cadres went on to assume responsibilities within the party and the state, as well as other important tasks. Youth as a source of cadres is a valuable reserve for the party.

However, there is, in our view, a very important principle: No one should be born a leader. To put it more appropriately: No one should be a leader from the time he is a Pioneer until he is assigned a responsibility as a party cadre. If it is deemed suitable for university professors to pass through production, and for production specialists to be able to teach a class sometime, or for party school professors to serve as cadres for some time so they can get to know the practical reality, it is highly convenient for the youth cadres to pass through or to have passed at some point through direct participation in the field of production or the services before they are promoted to important party responsibilities. No textbook or academy can replace the experience gained there, where a rank and file man works and struggles. There can be no better chief than he who at some point, or somehow has been a soldier. [applause]

During these years, with their enthusiastic and tenacious work, the UJC has strengthened its role as vanguard of the Cuban youth and as an active party auxiliary in the field of education and the communist formation of the new generations. The UJC's activities have projected even more toward the youthful masses and it has obtained the participation of both youths and children in several political, patriotic, recreational, and cultural activities. The organization has continued expanding its mass cultural work, the attention given to the groups of young artists, the promotion of sports, and the development of new options for the use of spare time. Outstanding in this area is the support given by the UJC to the popular camping movement.

The activity carried out by the Patriotic-Military Education Association, SEPMI, is of great importance for the work in support of defense and the patriotic-military education of the new generations. Under an agreement reached by the secretariat of the party's central committee SEPMI is now under the UJC direction. In addition to improving its structures, SEPMI defines its objectives and purposes better develops a vast activity in promoting technical-military sports, especially marksmanship, attends to the military discussion groups, cooperates actively in the training of lesser-rank specialists for FAR, and organizes many other patriotic-military activities through the rank and file clubs.

Cuba's youth has continued making an important contribution to the country's economic development. The technical youth brigades have grown and today comprise over 300,000 members. The shock-works [obras de choque] movement includes 22 important investments in which over 17,000 youths work, representing 52 percent of the total number of workers. A total of 19 shock-works were completed, and they were characterized by broad youth participation. During this 5-year period the movement of youthful economic initiatives emerged, which has turned into a permanent means of encouraging volunteer work and channeling the youths' potential in terms of production and services.

The UJC has continued to perfect its mechanisms for attending to the FEEM and the FEU to bolster its authority and the capacity for mobilization of the student masses. In the future, that work must become more effective, in accordance with the lofty purposes that our country has outlined in that area.

As part of the effort to expand and improve political and ideological work among the masses of youth and children, the publication of newspapers, magazines, and books for this sector of the population has continued to develop. In the next few years, the struggle must be continued to achieve increasingly higher quality in this task.

Cuban youth carried out multiple activities to salute the 12th World Festival of Youth and Students. A rigorous mass process was conducted, which culminated with the selection of the Cuban delegation, comprised of 1,300 youths, worthy ambassadors of our homeland at the grand meeting of youth from all over the world.

The Cuban youth organizations called a meeting of Latin American and Caribbean youth and students on the foreign debt, which met with broad acceptance. Over 300 organizations and 600 participants from 35 countries turned this event into the broadest and most representative of the hemisphere's youthful forces. This dialogue and the activity carried out at the 12th festival helped the foreign debt issue gain importance within the Latin American youth movement's activities.

The new generation is aware of the role it must play regarding study, production, and defense. Our party expresses its firm conviction that the young workers, peasants, students, scientists, specialists, service employees, Armed Forces and Interior Ministry combatants, all of them, are members of our country's new generation; they will be worthy standard bearers of the spirit of heroism and victory in which our revolution has educated them.

We must now talk about the party, our hardened vanguard. Today the party comprises 523,639 militants and aspirants. Its rank-and-file organizations total 38,168. During this 5-year period, our party's ranks swelled by 92,779 militants. The highest standards were always present.

Of the party members, 43.2 percent are workers directly linked to production and service. If those who are working as teachers, professors, engineers, doctors, architects, and other professionals and technicians were added to them, this category would increase to nearly 60 percent of the total.

The revenue from the UJC that constituted 22 percent of the total in 1980 increased in 1985 to 37.8, to 57.8. [sentence as heard] In the next 5-year term the UJC must contribute approximately 70 percent of the new revenue to the party. Women's representation in the party ranks increased from 18.8 in 1980 to 21.5 percent in 1985.

Party punishments have met their educational goals, while preserving the purity of the party ranks. Work has been done so that the masses will know that the party does not permit behavior unworthy of its members. When deficiencies have a certain political repercussion, the labor group or the residence area of the militant or candidate member must be notified of the penalties.

There have been many efforts to increase the use of criticism and self-criticism. One frequently still finds militants, who even had leadership responsibilities, who understand criticism and self-criticism in a strictly theoretical way, totally disconnected from the specific practice of their own actions, but linked to the defects of others, not to their own defects. Such attitudes must be strongly and courageously fought, based on principles and always with a constructive and educational spirit.

After the second congress, we changed the structures of the municipal committees, parting from the principle that the main task of these organizations is attention to the rank and file organizations and their adequate operation. Thus, as part of his work, an instructor became a teacher and a guide for the work of the rank and file organizations.

In spite of the unquestionable results achieved with this innovation, which can be observed in the role and growing influence of the rank and file organizations, there is still a need for greater and better work of the corresponding organizations, and particularly the executive bureau of each municipal committee in the orientation and direction of these professional instructors of the rank and file, and the professional cadres at the work centers.

Along with these changes, we implemented the creation of permanent commissions in the municipal committees in order to carry out studies and follow the development of certain important activities.

The periodic evaluation of their work has shown that they are excellent helpers of the party's organizations at that level. The internal information of the party moved forward during that period of time as a result of the search for new formulas. Progress was also made in issuing bulletins and authorizing other means of information to lower echelons, although there are still some deficiencies and a lack of the necessary agility in order for the rank and file to receive all that useful information on the political and ideological work corresponding to them.

The open meetings, to which the party invites nonmember workers to analyze problems of general interest to work centers, were a positive experience that enriched the evaluation of party matters and brought the party closer to the masses.

The council of secretaries in enterprises or unions, whose establishments go beyond the framework of the municipality or the province, have had positive results. The work done by the assembly to analyze the work carried out prior to the third congress achieved positive results in comparison with previous efforts to direct the party's attention toward the basic problems of each work center, of each territory, setting aside secondary matters and formalities that many times distract the cadres and militants.

The problems of economy, the tasks of defense, ideology, health, education -- those issues of a permanent importance and priority -- principally occupied the attention of the assembly at the various levels, and its agreements were a consistent answer to the problems that were presented.

The preparation and contents of the meetings of the rank and file party organizations have improved considerably. During this period, the process to grant the title of party founder was carried out. This honor was bestowed on 18,197 militants who had accumulated the necessary merits.

The party has been in the midst of all the efforts carried out in recent years to prepare for and strengthen the defense of the country. Its effort has been decisive in creating and organizing the MTT and the defense areas, as well as in other activities that considerably increased the defensive potential of our fatherland.

The military preparation of the cadres has received all the necessary attention. The party prepared the adequate structures and forms that would be adopted if an imperialist aggression were to take place against our fatherland; those include measures that would be adopted under the most difficult circumstances.

Certain advances can be observed in the cadre policy, but they are insufficient to solve the problems discussed by the second congress. A more integral analysis of the work carried out with the cadres by the party itself, the state institutions, the UJC, and the mass organizations has been in process. It has thus been possible to delve more deeply into an evaluation of the conditions and possibilities of the comrades who have been proposed to hold directive posts, into the formation of cadre reserves, the evaluation of leaders, and the manner in which the policy of including women and young people in the directive posts is being fulfilled so as to get women to participate more and young people to gradually move up to higher positions, thus guaranteeing that they will replace those now in the leadership.

The mechanisms guaranteeing the correct selection, stability, and promotion of the cadres must be increasingly improved on the basis of an in-depth, critical, objective, and systematic evaluation and suitable attention to their development and preparation.

Suitable female representation must be guaranteed, in accordance with the women's participation and important contribution to the construction of socialism in our country, as well as the presence of the increasing reserve of youths and promising units who have been born and forged under the revolution.

Our people's ethnic composition, added to the revolutionary merit and proven talent of many countrymen who in the past were discriminated against because of the color of their skin, must be duly represented in the party's leading cadres.

This promotion of all the components and valuable units of our society and their integration into the party and its directorate cannot be left to chance.

During these years, the schools of the party, the UJC, and the mass organizations obtained a favorable balance in the political-ideological education of directive and rank-and-file cadres. The quality of the work was improved and the qualifications for teachers were raised. A large part of the party's professional cadres have participated in courses in the Nico Lopez school, in the party's provincial schools, and abroad. The contents of the courses must be perfected so they will contribute to a more effective preparation of the cadres in confronting the tasks assigned to them, and in perfecting their connection with practical work. The generalization of the experience in which the teachers work during some period as party cadres will no doubt contribute to this purpose.

The centers for political-ideological training graduated 401,676 students during this 5-year period. Alongside their current activity they offered courses to the leaders of the rank-and file organizations to help them organize their practical tasks more efficiently.

The Council of State's approval in 1984 of Decree Law 82 on the work system with the state cadres, and the implementation of an immediate plan for putting it into effect, created the conditions for the party to give all the attention that the cadre policy of the state, the administration, and the enterprises require. The cadre policy will be a priority task of the party after this congress.

The educational level of militants and aspirants continues to increase, with 72.4 percent of the members having completed the ninth grade or higher levels. This favorable situation will make it possible in the next few years to concentrate attention on raising their technical and professional training.

During this 5-year period the party has made a great effort to modernize its printing base in order to guarantee high quality in the printing of newspapers, magazines, books, posters, and other informational and political material. The program for remodeling the press is already becoming a reality. For this we have had the valuable cooperation of the CPSU. New graphic units have been built and equipped in Camaguey, Las Tunas, Granma, Guantanamo, and Isle of Youth, which are at the stage of stabilizing production. In the next 5 years, remodeling will be completed in the remaining provinces.

During the 1981-85 period, work began on decentralizing the printing of national newspapers. The initial results are already in, with the construction and recent setting in motion of the productive area of newspaper plants in Havana and Holguin. With these two important plants, which use the advanced offset technology, appreciable improvement of the quality of the printing of the newspapers GRANMA, JUVENTUD REBELDE, TRABAJADORES, TRIBUNA, and AHORA will be achieved.

To this we must add the introduction, after the second half of 1986, of a system that entails the facsimile transmission of the pages of the newspapers of Havana to Holguin through a coaxial cable. With a difference of only 1 minute, it will be possible to print the national newspapers in both places. This process will be concluded during the 1986-90 period when similar installations will be set in motion in Santiago de Cuba, Villa Clara, and Camaguey. This will considerably facilitate the distribution of the national papers, which at present are taken from the capital to the rest of the country. It will make it possible to have more up-to-date information and to satisfy the increasing demands from the provinces and the entire country.

I think that the first edition of GRANMA already began circulating today. It has much better paper, better pictures. I do not know if it is only for one day, now, [laughter] or whether that will continue, but at least one can see they have made an effort.

If we confirm what is stated here, that they have put the production areas to work, now we will be able to see this; what is bad is that those of us who are getting a little older show our gray hair in photographs. [laughter] I have seen some pictures that are almost entirely white; actually, the impression quality was very poor. I believe that this is a major step forward. I wonder whether they could enlarge the letter size, because at times the print is so small that people forget that the country's average life expectancy; well, it increases, too [laughter] thanks to improvements in public health. [sentence as heard]

I believe that this is really good news; it is good to be able to speak of and verify in this congress the great improvement of our press; that we will be able to print more copies, will not need to transport them by plane; we will save all those expenditures; that the newspapers will be published simultaneously in Havana as well as in Santiago, Holguin, and the rest of the country. I believe this constitutes a great improvement.

Beginning in 1986, the Frederich Engels printing press will be remodeled. This will bring a qualitative change in the publication of the BOHEMIA, MUJERES, MUCHACHAS, and VERDE OLIVO magazines, and all written publications of the party, the UJC, and mass organizations. This is being done with the help of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED]. People do not realize how important it is to have friends. [applause]

The work of the party's control and review committees, although not trouble-free, has characterized itself by the depth of its appraisals, the humanity of its evaluations, criticism and demand in methodology, a zeal to help preserve authority and the party's purity, and its desire to correct errors.

We have verified the progressive improvement in party discipline and the rigor and depth of appraisals in grassroot and party organizations in regard to their decisions in the application of party disciplinary measures, revenue processes, finances, administration, and the control of assigned goods.

The party's control and review committees try to help ensure that complaints and reports on deficiencies, shortages, or incorrect behavior are appropriately heeded; that measures are taken, and that help is extended to those who need it. They also work to prevent any kind of attempt to dampen the critical spirit that should characterize the behavior of revolutionaries.

In the coming years, the control and review committees will continue to broaden their duties and improve their work in order to contribute decisively in the development of the party's internal democracy, discipline, the critical and self-critical spirit, and the general political work of its agencies and organizations.

The Central Committee will continue to pay special attention to complaints, claims, and requests of the citizens, because it believes that this activity constitutes an important means to link the party to the masses. The time elapsed was characterized in general terms by a profound search and application of new forms of party work that made possible the progress achieved.

During that period, it also helped the party decrease any duplication of duties corresponding to other institutions. This will allow it to be in an increasingly better position to carry out its role as a genuine educator, organizer, and mass leader within the core of Cuban society, and to demand that each institution fulfill its duties.

It has fought, with encouraging results, against all expressions of bureaucracy, conforming superficiality, formalisms, routines, and other inclinations foreign to the party's life and activity. Throughout the tense struggle of these years, the party has continued to be the great leadership and unifying force of our society and as the par excellence representative of authority, morale, and the principles of the watchful conscience of the revolution.

In conducting this third congress with honor, the party has not only presided over the entire effort for the material and spiritual transformation of the country, but has continued to transform and perfect itself. In so doing, it has complied with dignity with its responsibility of always setting the example in matters of organization, exigency, and improvement, in discipline, revolutionary austerity, an inclination to sacrifice, and in a close and permanent relationship with all the people.

We can say with profound satisfaction that the PCC arrives at its third congress much stronger, more unified, and better organized than ever; it is more and more deeply rooted in the heart of the working class and the other popular masses. [applause]

One fundamental ideological task for the party is that the people's political awareness should produce unbending loyalty to the principles of socialism and unbreakable moral integrity. We must be determined to cease existing before we cease being revolutionary. This legacy must be constantly renewed from one generation of Cubans to the next.

In this region of the world where the Cuban nation was born, the slightest hesitation would have irreversible results. Our trust in the future is based on socialism's proven ability to generate qualities in a society such as passion for creative work, a spirit of solidarity among human beings, the purest patriotism, and a most reliable internationalism. This is the basis of the moral work of the revolution. The humanism of Cuban society represents a solid shield in the face of the merciless, brutal egoism of capitalist society.

During the past 5-year period, special attention in the ideological sector was given to educating workers in economics and preparing the country to face, resist, and defeat any imperialist aggression. The most important economic, productive, and savings tasks have been promoted with an emphasis on a higher education level. This has helped improve the efficacy of educational work.

Matters of continuous importance and significance such as the communist formation of new generations, publicizing the Cuban people's struggle tradition, the putridness and crisis of capitalist society, the great possibilities of our system, and education in the principles and norms of socialist legality, among other issues, were some of our revolutionary proclamations during the past 5-year period. Solidarity with liberation and popular causes, and brotherhood with the people of the socialist community also drew the attention of the Cuban news media.

The battles waged at the Nonaligned Movement forum, in the United Nations, at the events held in Havana to discuss the foreign debt, in the Latin American Parliament, and through the international news media to promote the only true alternative to the world's social and economic crisis; to promote the progress and well-being of the underdeveloped people; to stop the suicidal, massive, exterminative arms race; and to promote peace had an important impact on our people. These battles improved the political culture of the masses who studied in greater depth these problems vital for the future of mankind.

The party's political publishing house alone published more than 60 million papers [ejemplares] and 746 books [titulos], including 15 speeches and interviews with the party's first secretary concerning Cuba's position on the debt and other matters of political and historic interest.

The newspaper GRANMA fully and seriously informed and oriented the people and increased its influence and prestige. The provincial newspapers made advances in complying with their specific functions. Most have enlarged themselves as an alternative for the readers.

Cuba already has one of the highest rates of newspaper readers in the Third World. There was an annual distribution of approximately 400 million nationwide newspapers, more than 90 million provincial newspapers, 72 million CDR newspapers, and 13 million foreign newspapers, or publications. As we have said before, we are working rapidly and with excellent material and technical assistance to support this activity. In many cases we have been unable to go beyond descriptive work in making the achievements of the revolution known. Despite the media's efforts to publicize new work and the advances made, it is still notorious that there is a lack of analyses to stress the social and informative function of the news media.

Frequently, there is an erroneous interpretation of what criticism of the administrative and economic work should contain. There are isolated remarks, and criticism is being viewed as just one more news category. Many efforts in this direction are made hastily and are not part of an integral reporting effort that should include both achievements and deficiencies.

The goal is not to criticize. The goal is the application, based on principles, of a method to interpret the true situation as a whole and to promote collective work in order to correct and overcome defects.

It is evident that there is no specialization on economic matters among many of our journalists. In a state of workers such as ours criticism of deficiencies or errors in the economic or administrative effort is not aimed at destroying anyone or at weakening the people's trust in the revolution but at confronting the cadres sense of honor, at educating the people, and at showing them the way to rectification.

When a report deals with problems resulting from objective factors, our media has the obligation to inform the people and to give them all of the elements of judgement so that they may understand the causes of the problem.

To attack only the consequences is not only counterproductive, it tends to misguide and confuse. To this we must add the fact that except for the sessions of the National Assembly -- the broadcast of which is an invaluable orientation for similar activities at the local level, and even for the higher leadership of the party and of the state -- many times, we omit things, and we do not favor the understanding of problems affecting the country, thus renewing the conviction that they [as heard] are the object of the anonymous and untiring work of thousands of cadres.

Likewise, many officials and administrators do not channel the efforts of the reporters or the contacts with them. They refuse to provide unclassified information, they self-appoint themselves as censors and adopt certain justifications, or do not even acknowledge the question that concerns them. On the other hand, there is the case of a reporter who obtains information about programs or plans that are being analyzed or prepared, and then passes it on to the public as if these decisions had already been adopted, without giving any indication that these were ideas that were part of a project.

Many times I have found out about great plans in this manner, reading about them in the newspaper. Then they turn out to be ideas that are being prepared; they are technical views; experts are studying them; and I have seen them report them many times as if they had already been adopted. This has happened on several occasions, and it happened recently. We already read about the projected forestry plan up to the year 2000. This is something that is only being planned now, it is being discussed, analyzed, and sometimes an expert is even quoted.

Honestly, this has happened many times and should not occur; otherwise, they are going to lose credibility before the population. When they announce that the plan has been approved, it is merely being studied. One can provide certain ideas, the idea that it is being studied, but it should be explained what it is about.

We must continue to make efforts to improve the quality and professional level of our press in order to respond to the expectations and the increasing and varied interest of readers. This objective should be a journalistic practice characterized by the truth of the reporter's views and opinions, his thoroughness, and his ability to make his writings entertaining. The Union of Cuban Journalists plays an important role in this.

The National Radio Broadcasting and Television system received, during the period, a remarkable boost. We have 5 national radio networks, 17 provincial networks, and 30 territorial networks. Although the so-called areas in silence [zonas de silencio] have not been completely eradicated, the area of coverage was expanded considerably. The general reinforcement of the programming of the country's radio stations, including Radio Havana Cuba, the precision of their message [perfil], and various technical improvements, are part of a strengthening process that is still under way.

We must spread the implementation of positive experiences in the search for a more dynamic and modern radio language.

National television stabilized its structure in two channels with messages [perfiles] that are clearly different. Morning transmissions were begun, summer programming was extended, and new specials were offered at various times of the years.

Regarding news broadcasting, Tele-Rebelde correspondent offices were created in all the provinces and on the Isle of Youth. To the studios of Santiago de Cuba and Holguin, we added the telecenters in Camaguey, Villa Clara, and Pinar del Rio.

Steps are being taken to create independent television stations in Guantanamo and on the Isle of Youth, due to the peculiarities of those two territories. One, because it is the first trench, and the other because it is a corner of the fatherland where thousands of foreign youths are studying.

In the other province capitals we will need to establish a primary stage during which local programs will be produced, through one of the national channels, in schedules that will be agreed upon in order to use the equipment and signal of national channels.

In the case of the Havana provinces, where one-fourth of the country's population lives, the perspective that is being analyzed is the creation of a third channel, with cultural programming and entertainment. This is something that cannot be done for the entire country technically. More than half of the television programs are in color. Work is being done so that the national production, which is now 65 percent of that system, reaches 100 percent during this 5-year period. We also hope to begin to introduce color television, to a certain large-scale degree, not only with our production, but also in cooperation with the Soviet Union.

In the relatively near future, we will have the possibility of transmitting Cuban television via satellite so that it can be watched throughout Latin America and in most African countries. [applause]

With almost 2 million television sets, television is at this time in our country the source of information, recreation, and cultural influence with the greatest importance and potential. The fundamental thing is to concentrate efforts on quality programming. For this reason it is essential that we overcome mediocrity and the practice of taking the easy way out [facilismo]. We must discard obsolete schemes, introduce advanced forms of production organization, adopt and implement appropriate measures in labor matters, and apply a consistent cadre policy, opening the screen to the best artistic talent in the country. [applause]

We want and can have radio and television that is more popular, more representative, richer in topics of interest, more entertaining, and more cultured.

The most important ideological and political task that we face is the culmination of the construction of socialism and at the same time the unflagging struggle for the perfection of our society. We do not evade or disregard our imperfections and problems. We must remain alert and put a stop to the easily frightened petite bourgeoisie spirit that views the norms of authority as exaggerated and the rigor of discipline as extreme. We must criticize the least sign of arrogance and defeat, and the least indication of bourgeoisification and corruption. [applause]

At the beginning of 1984 through agreement of the Politburo, a message signed by the first secretary was sent to each militant of the party reiterating the decisive role of the individual Communist in the family, the work center, and the community in educating children and youths. We wish to stress the validity of the concepts expressed in that message and to insist on the social importance of the personal example of the Communists and the cadres. We also want to insist that the party's capacity and authority to struggle against ideological inconsistencies in our society depend on the predominance in its internal life of the opportune and fraternal exercise of criticism and self-criticism.

Naturally, in the future we will continue to wage a tenacious struggle against any enemy attempt to break the combative morale and weaken the patriotic spirit and the people's confidence in the revolution. The economic education, labor discipline, and conscience and culture of producers will continue to be essential objectives of ideological education in the future, based on the firm conviction that progress and our future well-being depend on our talent, sacrifice, and sweat. Our aspirations to perfect all the work of the revolution obviously include the ideological front where we must advance to higher levels, freeing it of formalism and eliminating any bureaucratic influence.

We must emphasize that the party's explanations of its policy in each area of economic and social development must be convincing. Efforts in all institutions must be creative. We must give priority to the solution of the concrete problems of the masses, and we must combine the study of the Marxist-Leninist theory with the concrete practice of building socialism in our country.

In the coming years, our fundamental ideological instrument and sure guide for action will be the party program, which contains the essential things and work objectives we must undertake not only for the country's economic and social development but also for the development of our Communist consciousness. [applause]

Companeros: Regardless of how high a mountain might be, if the climbers are tenacious, there are always people who reach the top, and here we are approaching the end of this. [applause]

During the years we are analyzing, the international situation has been one of the most tense and complex of the postwar period. It has been characterized by a growing threat to world peace and by the growing danger of a nuclear war in the midst of one of the worst economic crises of the capitalist system, which mercilessly unloaded on the Third World nations the catastrophic consequences of this crisis.

U.S. imperialism, especially the Reagan administration, is entirely responsible for the worsening of the international situation.

In our report to the second congress, a few days before President Reagan initiated his first term in office, we warned that we had to be prepared to face the serious difficulties the world would face. We based our opinion on the policy that the new U.S. Administration had proclaimed. This administration's program was flooded with a fascist foreign policy based on chauvinistic and militarist concepts. It included the manipulation of U.S. public opinion and stirring up the ghost of an alleged Soviet threat.

This would be used as a premise to back the security theory of military supremacy as the only guarantee for defending what they call U.S. interests. This policy was necessarily accompanied by the reaffirmation of the global role the United States has adopted, in open alliance with reactionaries and counterrevolutionaries everywhere.

The Reagan administration's foreign policy was complemented domestically with measures that give privileges to the richer sectors of U.S. society, and that have resulted in cuts in the budgets for U.S. health, education, and social assistance, cuts that negatively affected lower income groups, including the elderly people, the unemployed, and broad sectors of blacks and Latin Americans.

This domestic policy was accompanied by a decapitalization of the economies of Third World countries by means of a brutal increase in interest rates -- and all this to obtain a huge increase in military expenditures and to pay for rearmament without having to impose new taxes, while promising that there would be a well-balanced budget.

Reagan and his aides thought that while military expenditures would serve to reactivate the flat U.S. economy, they would also simultaneously secure the objective of imposing on the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries unsustainable tension on their economic, scientific, and technological resources, and that this would delay the advances of socialism.

The U.S. Administration exerted pressure on its European, NATO, and Japanese allies to have them implement this policy. This is how new and increasingly more costly arms buildup projects began. The U.S. Government began installing 572 medium-range missiles in Europe aimed at the Soviet Union. All this recently culminated with the proclamation of the so-called "star wars."

In the face of a growing and powerful propeace movement that comprises the most dissimilar forces -- which initially included workers and student groups in Europe as well as important U.S. sectors -- the march toward a nuclear confrontation went on.

Only in recent months have signs appeared, still weak, of the possibility of a return to detente.

The sinister path of U.S. foreign policy has been importantly obstructed by the unflinching position in favor of peace of the Soviet Union and the socialist countries, by the firm opposition of the progressive masses of Europe and elsewhere, and by the firm resistance put up by all the revolutionary movements and countries of the Third World to the positions of force and blackmail adopted by the United States during these years.

The clear, brave, and flexible proposals that the CPSU leadership has repeatedly presented to safeguard peace and to stop the arms race have taken the initiative from the United States and its aggressive policy; this forced Reagan -- who had declared his decision not to negotiate with the Soviet Union -- to accept the Geneva meeting and to talk for many hours -- extensively, beyond the official meetings held by the representatives of the two countries -- with the head of the Soviet delegation, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. [applause]

No solution came out of Geneva, but hopes did arise for a change that could lead to an increase in communication, and this, to serious steps toward detente and peace.

The fact that those who once based their policy on a search for military supremacy have now said that this supremacy cannot be secured, and that such a search is senseless, and the fact that those who one day proclaimed that there was the possibility to win an atomic war are now admitting that this is impossible and that therefore there should be no nuclear war -- these facts are an indication that there have been slight changes.

On 15 January, Comrade Gorbachev, responsibly sustaining the line and position he held in Geneva, proposed a program of action for the remainder of this century to secure the total elimination of nuclear weapons in the world.

Not since the emergence of these fearsome weapons of massive destruction, which have become a terrible nightmare for mankind, had there been a proposal so categoric, firm, and specific to eliminate those weapons.

The struggle against nuclear arms and their proliferation has been presented on a basis in which no country or group of countries would have the exclusive privilege of equipping themselves with such weapons.

The same type of proposal has been made regarding chemical weapons. The principle of on site inspections has been accepted. All the pretexts imperialism has presented in the past in this regard have been refuted. This program has been received with satisfaction everywhere.

The U.S. President himself has not been able to prevent the acknowledgement of what his spokesmen have called positive aspects of that proposal. Reagan's policies have not only endangered world peace and threatened mankind as a whole, in the unfolding of Reagan's hegemonistic goals and of his function as an imperialist gendarme, he has aggravated the world situation, especially in areas that are potential and dangerous focci of tension.

We cannot forget that the possibility that Reagan might modify his attitude toward the world, will not necessarily mean that he will change his attitude at regional levels.

In some cases, such as in Central America, Angola, South Africa, and other countries, the imperialist aggression has increased since Geneva.

One dramatic example of the return to the Big Stick policy, proclaimed by Theodore Roosevelt almost a century ago and now being implemented by Reagan at the world level, is the unscrupulous and brutal occupation of Grenada, a tiny Caribbean island of approximately 400 square km and 120,000 people which is thousands of kilometers from the United States. The U.S. Government sent a powerful military force against the government of that country, thus exercising its self-appointed international gendarme function.

It is true that, unfortunately, the errors of the revolutionaries of Grenada made it easier for imperialism to accomplish its filthy task. However, this does not make the U.S. Government's crime against international law and the rights of the people less serious, and it does not diminish the meaning of the death of the unforgettable founder of that fatherland, our Comrade Maurice Bishop, of his companeros who died with him, and of the Cuban internationalist workers who were compelled by the brutal occupation forces to defend their honor and lives in an unequal battle for which they were not prepared. This was a lesson for us.

But Grenada was hardly an expression of the crude and brutal policy of President Reagan for Latin America.

Reagan dumped billions of dollars in arms, military assistance, and economic aid on El Salvador, a small and underdeveloped Central American country whose people for decades endured the most brutal and corrupt despotism and whose pro-Yankee and Yankee-made regimes have tortured, made disappear, and murdered tens of thousands of citizens. He put this in the hands of genocidal people who want to uproot the revolution and to impose at all costs a military solution on the conflict.

This is being done, as it happened in Santo Domingo, Guatemala, Vietnam, and other places, while invoking the defense of democracy in the world and the security of the United States.

The admirable resistance that the Salvadoran revolutionaries have presented and the ability with which they have been able to adapt themselves to the war conditions imposed by the flood of sophisticated military technology and by the advice given by the best U.S. experts, have sent down the drain the imperialist dreams of smashing rebelliousness [rebeldia] in that country.

The Salvadorans have given the imperialists an example of the heroism, intelligence, and capabilities for the struggle of the Latin American people, who they have always considered a strange and scornful mixture of arrogant blacks, people who in El Salvador -- one of the smallest countries in this continent -- are now showing the empire what its limits of might and power are. [applause]

Nicaragua, and its young Sandinist revolution, however, were meant to endure the most visible and sinister evidence of the return to the days of the imperialist stick and carrot. The current U.S. Administration wants to materialize its aggressive and reactionary ideology by destroying the Sandinist revolution, forcing it to capitulate and to accept U.S. conditions. With this, the U.S. Administration wants to teach a lesson and issue a warning to the entire continent.

Nicaragua is enduring a war financed, directed, and implemented by the Pentagon and the CIA by means of a mercenary army that has bases in Honduras and Costa Rica. However, no one can make history march backward. The firm and brave Sandinist decision of not retreating has made it clearly evident that what happened in Cuba is not exceptional, that no power -- regardless of how powerful it might be -- can impose its arbitrary will on a nation willing to resist.

After years of heroic struggle to maintain its identity and to respect the will of the people, Nicaragua is there, unbeatable, and exhibiting important achievements, such as the agrarian reform, and great progress in the educational and health services in spite of the bleeding and destruction it is enduring, a bleeding that already amounts to more than 12,000 dead and a destruction that amounts to more than $1 billion in property damage.

The U.S. equivalent to the Nicaraguan death toll resulting from Reagan's dirty war would be 900,000 dead; the property losses would be unbearable.

Enduring the economic burden that the war imposes, and mourning its dead daily, but firmly maintaining its plan for a new independent, democratic, nonaligned, and pluralistic Nicaragua, the Sandinist revolution stands. [applause]

The Yankee incapacity to impose its policy in Central America by force is symptomatic of a more important predicament. In the past 5 years, the period we are analyzing, the imperialist plan to govern our America through genocidal military tyrannies went into a crisis.

The crumbling of the Argentine military junta and the victory of Alfonsin; the return of Uruguay to democratic life after many years of bloodshed; the democratic opening of a country as important as Brazil; the arrival in power of a civilian government in Guatemala, where the repression of the military regimes installed by the CIA in 1954 has produced a toll of more than 80,000 either missing, tortured, or dead among a valiant people, and a revolutionary movement which has unselfishly struggled and resisted for years and is now hoisting the banner of a negotiated political solution for its country; as well as other evident changes in the continent, have left Pinochet, Stroessner, and Duvalier as the solitary representatives of a sinister imperialist scheme whose fate is to disappear.

The formation of the so-called Contadora Group, where Mexico has played an outstanding and positive role, is part of this framework because in spite of its weaknesses and instability and of the tendency of some of its members to make concessions to Washington, Contadora is an expression of Latin America's growing will to demand respect for its countries' sovereignty, to resolve its problems by peaceful means without intervention or demands from the United States, and to safeguard the right of the people to have whatever social and political system they view as suitable.

The support for that effort by the Support Group -- made up of Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil, and Peru -- strengthens its Latin American spirit. Since the beginning, Cuba has expressed solidarity and unrestricted support for the Sandinist revolution and for its young teachers, doctors, construction workers, and technicians in general. We do not conceal this. The military and security advisers have been a modest expression of our solidarity.

Cuba has also played a role in the search for a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict, which must also involve a U.S. commitment to give up its aggressive actions against the Nicaraguan people. To demand that Nicaragua assume commitments, without complying with this prerequisite first, is equivalent to requesting a negotiated surrender of the Sandinist revolution and renunciation of the country's sovereignty and independence.

In addition, we must not forget the need to seek negotiated political solutions to the wars in El Salvador and Guatemala. The Malvinas incident confirmed that the imperialists are capable of trampling the feelings of an entire continent as often as their interests require. They are even capable of insulting the integrity of Latin America rather than contradicting its NATO allies. That was an unforgettable lesson for the gullible.

Only a few days before that war, relations between the United States and Argentine military intelligence, at the service of the CIA, trained the first Somozist groups in Honduras that would soon attack Nicaragua. The Yankees preferred the Gurkha mercenaries of the British Army over those mercenaries.

The unified Latin American and Caribbean conscience is making some progress. SELA, in which Cuba has participated since its inception despite existing differences, is evidence of this. The recent declaration in Caracas and the previous one in Quito express this common spirit.

Most current governments in Latin America that refuse to accept Washington's demands do not advocate the disappearance of imperialism, much less question the capitalist system. Some advocate structural changes, others do not. The economic reform on which they are willing to embark varies in degree; in some cases, it is minimal.

This involves resistance against foreign domination -- the repugnance that any self-respecting government feels toward being used as a satellite. The objective contradictions between the economic interests of the empire and of our peoples are increasingly more evident. This reinforces the necessary historical inclination of Latin America toward its development and final liberation, which is an indispensable preamble for the most profound transformations required by our region.

In this Latin American position, even non-Marxist currents, such as the Social Democrats, can play a certain positive role. In the face of the most negative aspects of U.S. policy, the European Social Democrats allow themselves to assume more progressive positions. The European Christian Democrats do not show the same trend, however, and it would be wrong not to note that among Christian Democratic and social Christian forces in Latin America, we can find progressive elements, and it would be neither correct nor valid to describe all Christian Democratic governments that might emerge in the area as necessarily negative forces. Not all are constantly called to play the ominous role of the Christian Democratic government of Duarte in El Salvador.

In addition to the Christian Democrats there are the Christians, who are not necessarily Christian Democrats, those who are represented in Latin America by a mass of hundreds of millions, most of them laborers, peasants, and middle class members who will not be able to liberate themselves unless they build socialism. In turn, socialism cannot be built without their support.

The theology of liberation has emerged as an important force in Latin America. We value it as a sincere experience committed to the poor and involving those who in this way express their authentic Christianity. However, we also value its political significance as the expression of the will of many Christians -- based on their own religious convictions -- to build a world in which fraternity, equality, and justice prevails among all men.

In the struggle for the independence of Latin America, the military officers should not be forgotten. Although the prestige of the men in uniform was shamefully tarnished in many of the countries in the hemisphere, in others, such as Peru during the times of Velasco Alvarado and in Panama -- to which we must add many personal cases in various corners of our America -- these military men showed the patriotic, popular attitude that many officers can adopt and claimed the right not to be excluded in this struggle for the second and final liberation of our peoples.

The nations of the Caribbean are also struggling under the effects of the capitalist crisis. The U.S. protectionist measures and the constant drop in the price of their main exports has prompted social unrest with a painful toll of victims in countries such as the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, and Haiti.

The much publicized Caribbean Basin Initiative has only served as a mechanism to consolidate U.S. military, political, and economic control in this region without doing anything to solve its abysmal crisis. The Caribbean countries experiencing difficulties include Puerto Rico, the sister Latin American nation that is still moaning under the Yankee colonial boot.

The crisis that has shaken the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean has made the region regress to the levels of the per capita product existing in 1977. Between 1980 and 1985 the growth rate of the Latin American economies was a meager 0.5 percent per year, which in per capita terms represented a 2.4 percent drop. The inflation rate increased 5.9 times. The foreign debt of Latin America and the Caribbean reached $368 billion in 1975. In that year alone, Latin American countries turned over $35,090,000 to foreign capitalists in interest and profits. In the 3 years they transferred $106 billion in cash in interest and profits.

Latin America and the Caribbean are now the regions with the highest debt in the world. The magnitude and seriousness of this problem has been thoroughly discussed in our country, the site of the meeting of personalities and the meetings of labor leaders, women, youths, and intellectuals. The underdevelopment and poverty these nations received as a legacy from colonialism and neocolonialism -- and the historical plundering they were victims of when they financed the development of the capitalist world with centuries of blood and sweat -- have been joined, in the past decades, by the increasingly abusive unequal exchange, the protectionist measures, the dumping, [preceding word in English] the flight of capital to the centers of economic power, and the monetary and financial manipulations that are within the origins of the debt and that paved the way for the current economic and social catastrophe afflicting these countries.

The increase in interest rates implemented by the government of Reagan, who even ignored the protests of his Western allies, whom he engulfed in recessions with that action, made the problem worse and converted the foreign debt into an insurmountable obstacle not only for development, but for maintaining the minimum levels of survival that had been reached.

When we announced that the debt could not be paid, we were using as a basis calculations and arguments which cannot be refuted. On the contrary, the debt becomes more unpayable with each day and each hour that passes.

The most recent drops in the price of oil, as brutal as its rise has been since late in 1974, must completely persuade even those oil exporting countries in our hemisphere that one day dreamed such a giant debt was payable. We are sure that debtors and creditors alike will sooner or later reach the conviction that it is absolutely impossible to pay the debt. I hope that it will be through a dialogue and not through catastrophic crises that these debts will receive their death certifications and be buried once and for all.

If one tried to apply the inhuman IMF formulas for paying the debt, no one could predict the magnitude of the social unrest and the consequences that would result from it, still without this impossible goal even being reached. The formula proposed by Cuba is simple, understandable, and perfectly applicable: Let the states of the creditor developed countries assume the Third World countries' debt with their own banks. Cuba proposes that 12 percent of what is invested in military expenditures be used for amortization of the debt. We do not propose a break for the international financial system, or that depositors in capitalist industrialized countries lose money, or that taxpayers must pay more taxes.

To this we add that simple annullment of the debt would not solve the profound economic crisis in the Third World countries. There is a need to apply the principles of the new world economic order approved by the United Nations to put an end to unequal exchange, protectionism, the dumping, [preceding word in English] the usurious interests, and the monetary and financial manipulations by a few developed capitalist powers. We propose the practicing of economic solidarity, without any conditions, with the poorest countries and those with the greatest economic backwardness.

We have insisted that a correct solution to the foreign debt problem and a new international order would increase the purchasing power of the Third World, which has many needs. It would also put to work at full capacity a large part of the factories of the developed capitalist world, which has many unemployed.

As for the development and future of Latin America, we say that an annullment of the debt and a new international economic order are not enough; economic integration is indispensable if we want to have a place in the world in the 21st century.

To those who shed crocodile tears for the financial resources of developed capitalist countries, it suffices to remind them that, with price reductions of petroleum last year, those countries will save no less than $80 billion in 1986, which is enough to service the interest of the Third World's foreign debt for an entire year.

As we might surmise, the economic crisis and the enormous, unpayable foreign debt have contributed to the historic convergence of the peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The United States has tried to impose its policy of force in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia, and it is failing in those attempts.

In the African southern cone, it offered its decisive support to the ignominious South African regime. At the same time, the United States has tried to promote agreements between South African racists and the People's Republic of Angola to force the latter to accept the withdrawal of Cuban forces. All of this is accompanied with a disregard for and distortion of UN Resolution No 435, which aims to guarantee Namibia's independence.

Instead of an independent Namibia, for which its people have fought for long years under the direction of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization], Washington is trying to ensure that Namibia will become an appropriate site for South African and U.S. neocolonial exploitation.

To complement this policy, the United States has promoted an understanding between the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] and Jonas Savimbi, a traitor to Africa linked to racist South Africa.

A few days ago, Reagan welcomed this mercenary with honors befitting a head of state. His forces have attacked and torched entire villages, murdered defenseless people, and killed thousands of civilians without differentiating among men, women, the elderly, and children. That is the prototype for freedom fighters with which the U.S. President associates himself in Nicaragua and Angola.

This Reagan attitude has encouraged South Africa to maintain an aggressive policy toward Angola; to continue to support the counterrevolutionary bandits of Renamo [The Mozambique National Resistance Movement], despite its hypocritical Nkomati accord with the People's Republic of Mozambique; to attack Lesotho and Bostwana; and to threaten Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Angola, which today, 4 February--the day in which this congress begins,--marks the 25th anniversary of the beginning of its courageous struggle against Portuguese colonialism. [applause] Angola has maintained its position based on firm principles, has strengthened and developed its Armed Forces, and has decisively faced the military escalation. During that period, Cuba has increased its support to that brother country.

However, a negotiated solution is possible. The known phase of the Cuban-Angolan joint declaration of May 1984 for the independence of Namibia, based on the application of UN Resolution No 435, and previous attempts to normalize the situation in southern Angola have full validity today.

The old attempt to link Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist contingent has faced a decisive rejection from the international community at the United Nations, the OAU, and the Nonaligned Movement. The independence of Namibia, and end to aggressions against Angola, and an end to aid to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] would make feasible the gradual withdrawal of part of those forces, as Angola and Cuba have proposed. However, whether the remaining forces continue in Angola and the circumstances and the date when all of them should be withdrawn, is the exclusive prerogative of the peoples of Angola and Cuba. [applause]

South Africa today faces an irreversible crisis of apartheid and of its own system of domination. The growing work of the ANC [African National Congress] and the increasing rebellion of the masses, which met with the most brutal racist repression and received enormous solidarity in the world, are a reflection of the current situation. We have no doubt that the historic result of this multiple battle will be reaffirmation of the independence and revolution in Angola, the independence of Namibia, and the disappearance of the intolerable system of apartheid. [applause]

Reagan's policy has gone further. Its unconditional support for Morocco has served to break the process for resolution of the conflict in the Western Sahara that was proposed and approved by the OAU. His threats against Libya and the blockade established due to that country's anti-imperialist position create permanent insecurity in the Mediterranean and northern Africa.

A little farther beyond, in the Middle East, the desire to make Israel -- which Reagan has declared a strategic U. S. ally -- prevail in that region has led to making the situation in Lebanon more tense and more difficult, instead of finding a solution to that country's dramatic problems. Reagan's failure was made evident with the rapid withdrawal the U. S. Marines were forced to carry out and the subsequent withdrawal of his Israeli allies.

The complex problems of the Middle East have been aggravated by the differences among the Arab countries, countries that have always had our firm friendship and solidarity. The Palestinians, who through the PLO have had almost universal support, have become dramatically divided and continue to be so. Cuba, like other countries, did everything within its modest capabilities to restore that unity, but without achieving that objective. However, this will not detract from out solidarity with the Palestinian people's struggle for their legitimate and unrenounceable rights.

We have also worked and will continue to work for the unity of the Arab world as an essential part of the progressive forces of the Nonaligned Movement in the international community. We view our support for the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and the Polisario Front as a matter of principle in the same way we reject with indignation the policy of blackmail and threats against Libya. [applause] Ethiopia, its great people, and its great leader, Companero Mengistu Haile Mariam, will also always have our full support. [applause] Africa in general will continue to have the permanent solidarity of the Cuban revolution.

A rapid review of Asia shows noticeable signs of the ill-fated character of U.S. foreign policy. Were it not been for the political, logistical, and financial U.S. support for the Afghan counterrevoluntionary bands, it would have been easier to achieve the political solution advocated by the United Nations, which has been accepted in principle by Afghanistan and Pakistan with the support of the Soviet Union. In a country where 235 out of every 1,000 children born alive died in the first year of life, where 80 percent of the population was illiteratre and 70 percent of the land was in the hands of only 2,000 families, nothing was more logical, necessary, and just than a revolution. Nevertheless, the U.S. Government has invested billions of dollars to try to crush the revolution; but it has not been successful. It is time for imperialist interference in the internal affairs of the Afghan people to stop and for the right of the Afghan people to build a future and live in peace to be respected. [applause]

India has denounced the manipulations aimed at destabilizing and dividing that country through inflammation of the separatist tendencies, community clashes, and the use of terror. That extreme climate of tension had a tragic culmination with the assassination of our dear and highly esteemed friend, Indira Gandhi. [applause] Death deprived India of great stateswoman who deeply understood the problems that, alongside her father, she had learned to handle. She was humane and sensitive, but at the same time firm. All of mankind felt as its own this loss, which we Cubans also felt. The wise and sure action of Rajiv Gandhi, who has continued the family tradition and shown his maturity and own determination, has confirmed that the enemies of India will not be able to impose their designs there.

The U.S. aggressive and warmongering strategy also acts in Japan for the purpose of strengthening the U.S. military presence in the Pacific and Indian oceans and of taking beyond the Japanese coasts, to which it is limited, the defense forces of that country.

The provocations on the Korean peninsula continue. Seoul was chosen as host for the forthcoming Olympic Games without taking into consideration at all the other part of the country, thus ignoring -- undoubtedly as a result of U.S. influence, pressure, and maneuvers -- that the nation is cruelly and artificially divided, that not long ago there was a bloody war as a result of which hundreds of thousands of people from various nations died, that South Korea is a Yankee military base, and that that puppet state is ruled by one of the most horrible and repressive regimes in the world.

Cuba supports North-South talks aimed at sharing the Olympic Games. This is the only honorable way out of the situation that has been created. Without that honorable way out, our country cannot possibly participate in those games. [applause]

The process of dialogue in Southeast Asia between the Indochinese countries and those of ASEAN is shamelessly being obstructed and Cambodian counterrevolutionaries are being encouraged. Meanwhile, the efforts to isolate Vietnam have continued, but this policy has not succeeded: The dialogue between ASEAN and Indochina continues. Vietnam is consolidating and strengthening its relations with the socialist society and the rest of the world. In Cambodia, there is a process of national rebirth.

Meanwhile, the anti-nuclear and pacifist movement has gained strength in the region and has been extended to South Korea, Australia, and New Zealand, a country that has been implementing an anti-nuclear policy that provoked a crisis in ANZUS.

In the entire Asian continent, the positive position China has been adopting in recent times regarding important international matters has not failed to produce an impact because of the undeniable weight China has in the complex development of situations in the world.

Its orientation toward world peace and its commitment, as a nuclear power, not to be the first to use nuclear weapons its rejection of Reagan's war of the galaxies plan; its support for the demands of the underdeveloped countries in the framework of its international economic relations; and its correct policy for the problems of Central America are part of this position.

Meanwhile, China and the Soviet Union are exchanging delegations and improving their relations. China supports the idea that the Seoul Olympic Games be shared. These are positive facts that we must cheer. The militants of our party know, however, that along with our adequate state relations with China, there are still Chinese Communist Party positions on vital foreign policy with which we do not agree and with which we cannot agree, including its hostility and its actions of force against Vietnam, a country that in its heroic struggle against imperialism spilled its blood for the independence of all Third World countries. [applause] We hope that some day this animosity will disappear, because it is a shadow and an obstacle for a sincere improvement of relations between Cuba and China.

If to the resistance that the Reagan policy has found and will continue to find in these three continents, we add the reluctance and the lack of enthusiasm with which Reagan's own allies back it, the unreal and anachronistic nature of that policy becomes evident. On the other hand, the catastrophic commercial deficit of the United States in 1985 amounted to the record figure of $148.5 billion. Reagan's promises about a reduction in the budget deficit, which in 1985 was more than $200 billion, were not kept. As a whole, the country spent more than $350 billion that had not been produced in a year. This is something that not even the lucky owners of Alladin's lamp could have dreamed of.

At the beginning of the 5-year period, Cuba headed the Nonaligned Movement, a task that was not easy at a moment as complex as the one that existed. The Cuban efforts to stop the war between Iran and Iraq have been acknowledged. That war has always appeared to us as absurd and of tragic consequences not only for both countries but also for our movement.

We cooperated alongside the nonaligned countries in the struggle to fight the Israeli aggression against Lebanon and to demand respect for the rights of the Palestinian people, victims of brutal massacres such as those at Sabra and Shatila. The movement was present in Central America and in the Malvinas war. At the United Nations, the condemnation of South Africa was due, to a great extent, to the action of the nonaligned countries. The economic problems of the Third World and the struggle for a new international economic order were given attention continuously.

Cuba also has decidedly contributed to maintaining the unity of the movement and to promote an acceptable solution regarding the host country for the 7th Nonaligned Movement summit that had to be decided upon because of the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war.

We need no higher praise for Cuba's work during that period than a statement by Indira Gandhi upon taking over the presidency of the movement from Cuba. The Nonaligned Movement continues to maintain its already known heterogeneous nature. In recent years it has continued to be an active and determining force in world policy. The assassination of Indira Gandhi brought about uncertain moments that Rajiv Gandhi has successfully overcome with sagacity and energy. The ministerial meeting in Luanda displayed the strength and unity of the Nonaligned Movement. The election of Zimbabwe as host of the next summit not only confirmed the prestige of that country and its young leader Robert Mugabe, but also showed the importance the Nonaligned members give to the situation in southern Africa, the apartheid problem, and the dramatic status of the African economy.

Our party's activity in international circles during these years, the development and strengthening of our ties with the communist parties of the entire world, especially to the members of the socialist community to which we belong, has played a decisive role.

To us, the unity of a communist movement, with absolute reciprocal respect and independent criteria for each member, is an important factor in the struggle to further socialism and in the implementation of a common strategy of peace and development.

The role of the CPSU in this historical task is well-known to us. In its capacity as the first socialist country, due to its enormous economic potential, its undoubted military might, and loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, the USSR is a decisive party of the historic contemporary forces.

The CPSU, leader in the East, is our closest friend and our best political ally. Similarly, each party in this important movement, be it big or small, will always be worthy of our greatest respect and consideration. [applause] Our party's good relations with the other revolutionary, progressive, and democratic forces throughout the world take place in the framework of the political situation that we described. As for state relations, Cuba currently holds dipolomatic ties with 121 states and maintains consular relations with two others. This figure is enough for us to be able to see from another angle the failure of the imperialist policy that tried to politically encircle and isolate the Cuban revolution. Prerevolutionary Cuba only had relations with 51 countries.

In the Cuban state's international activities, relations with the Soviet Union also enjoy priority and special attention. The exemplary nature of these relations demonstrates not only the USSR's continued political support and invaluable supply of military material that has permitted the defense of Cuba, but, as we have stressed more than once, the fact that the Soviet Union initiated a kind of economic relations with Cuba that might be considered the new international economic order to which we of the world's undeveloped countries aspire. [applause]

The long-term program for the development of the economic and scientific-technical cooperation between Cuba and the Soviet Union until the year 2000 confirms this. Close cooperation with the other countries of the socialist community, CEMA members, takes place to a different extent and according to particular circumstances. Along with the Soviet Union, the GDR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the CSSR, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Romania, and the SRV constitute our most important associates. Our joint participation in CEMA permits us to work in coordination and on a long-term basis. A close friendship and mutual identification with the DPRK, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the People's Republic of Kampuchea also constitutes a part of our socialist relations expressed in our firm friendship and cooperation relations with the SFRY. We hold normal relations with the PRC with which we maintain important and positive trade and government relations. Our relations with the Socialist People's Republic of Albania have developed favorably. More than once we have stressed our historical and racial ties with Africa. We are proud to say the revolution has strengthened these ties. Both Cubans and Africans in Angola and Ethiopia have set an example of combative internationalism. With them and numerous African countries, this internationalism has also been applied in the economic, scientific, and technical fields. Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Congo, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Madagascar, Seychelles, Benin, and Sao Tome are permanent allies in common battles in which we are now accompanied by Ghana and Burkina-Faso after the positive transformations in these countries.

The Sudanese people, subjected for long years to the bloody oppression of the Numayri regime -- a pawn of imperialism and Arab reactionaries -- broke the chains of tyranny with their vigorous mass actions in the north and the struggle of their guerrilla army in the south, and, with their heroic fighting, opened a promising revolutionary outlook. We harbor the hope that imperialism will not be able to hamper the process of change that takes place in that country.

Our friendship with Arab countries like Algeria, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, Libya, Syria, and Iraq is traditional. Ties with Iran were strengthening after the popular revolution that deposed the reactionary shah. We hope the dramatic events in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, whose tragic consequences we recently witnessed, will not harm the revolutionary process, the indispensable unity, independence, and peace in this sister country.

Our relations with developed capitalist countries have been determined by our policy of normal trade and mutually advantageous cooperation based on mutual respect and the independence of different social systems. Although we have not succeeded in getting the EEC countries to amend regulations that hamper or discriminate against our potential exports and they have not been able to relinquish protectionist policies, subsidies, and dumping [preceding word in English] that seriously harm the economy of many Third World countries, neither the EEC nor Japan have accepted the U.S.-advocated policy of establishing a virtual economic and financial blockade against us. This has been shown by the way in which these countries, Cuba's creditors, have dealt with the problem of refinancing our foreign debt. We will continue our efforts to make these relations stable and lasting. This, in addition to a firm economic perspective, includes a political dialogue regarding matters related to bilateral relations of the most important international problems.

It will hardly be necessary to explain -- because this springs almost naturally from the U.S. policy all over the world -- that the accession of the current U.S. Administration to the government brought about an extremely aggressive stance toward Cuba. This stance led the U.S. Government to strengthen its economic blockade against our country and make even more efforts than the previous administrations to impede our normal commercial and financial operations. At the same time, new plans for military aggression and subversion against our country were shamelessly announced. Stress was made on confronting us with the possibility of a true military action and going to the source, as one of their leaders described it, attributing to us with marked arbitrariness all that happened against the U.S. plans of dominance in Latin America, the Caribbean, and other places in the world. With unheard of insolence, the United States has continued to violate Cuban airspace with their SR-71 flights. As we have explained already, the Reagan government's threats and organizational measures have only served to strengthen our country's defensive ability and to turn our homeland into an impregnable bastion. [applause]

In the middle of the U.S. Government's permanently aggressive stance against Cuba, an opportunity arose for the two sides to reach a limited immigration accord, and our policy regarding this country was reasserted on the possibility of reaching reasonable agreements for the two parties, independent of the ideological abyss separating our two governments. Such agreements can be reached if our sovereign equality is respected and the absurd and intolerable interventionist plans that have generally marked U.S. policy toward Cuba for more than 25 years of revolution are excluded. During the 4 months that this immigration accord was in force, we scrupulously did our duty. Nevertheless, suddenly and provocatively, with only a few hours advance notice, and in an action simultaneously unnecessary and offensive, the U.S. Government made the decision to carry out its paranoid plans to initiate subversive medium-wave radio broadcasts against our country. Even more, the United States cynically used the name of our national hero to identify those broadcasts. For this reason, we decided to suspend the accord reached.

As we have said many times, Cuba is not reluctant to discuss its lengthy disagreement with the United States and seek peace and better relations between our two peoples. Our party reasserts this once again in this congress. [applause] We believe this would help to improve our area's political climate and would somehow also influence international policy. This, however, would have to be based on the strictest respect for our situation as a country that does not tolerate any shadows over its independence for whose dignity and sovereignty entire generations of Cubans struggled and sacrificed themselves. This will be possible only when the United States makes up its mind to negotiate in earnest and is willing to deal with us in a spirit of equity, reciprocity, and the fullest mutual respect.

The times when the empire could do its will in our country are long gone. [applause] The perseverance, tenacity, and firmness with which we have resisted during these 27 years our proven loyalty to our principles, determination with which we have engaged in the task of creating a new world and a just homeland, the confidence and certainty with which we lay the foundations of our future, and the heroism with which we have defended and will defend our revolutionary work, entitle us to the right that no one ignore or underestimate our people. [applause]

In addition, the links that we have established with the billions of human beings in the world who have common interests with us demonstrate that we are not fighting alone, but that we are a part of a humanity that is determined to prevail in its struggle for survival, peace, freedom and justice.

Like it or not, the United States will have to put up with a revolutionary Cuba. [applause] It will have to resign itself to this, and to a changing world. [prolonged applause]

Companero delegates, because we have made the right decisions, and have worked tenaciously throughout these years, our fatherland is stronger, our economy more solid, our experience richer, our party more experienced, and our people more mature, more united, more cultured, more self-confident and more revolutionary. [applause]

As we near the 30th anniversary of the "Granma," now that we look back on the road that we have covered -- back then, there was not even a light to show us the way to our destination -- we are pleased to think that these congresses are lighthouses that point the way to safe ports for the ship of the revolution to pause now and again to renew its commitment to its cause, during its lengthy voyage through the seas of history. [prolonged applause, rhythmic clapping to shouts of "Granma!"]

However, we are no longer a handful of men in a small yacht, better equipped with ideas than with weapons; we are now an immense, solid ship, that no wave, no wind, no storm can sink. This time, it is loaded with many dreams that have become reality, and many realities that are dreams still to be realized. An entire people is sailing toward the future, to land in it with the knowledge that even if they are faced with mountains of difficulties and obstacles, and even if a perfidious enemy is waiting to pounce, many 1 Januaries await them, as a reward for their tenacity, their self-confidence, and their effort. [applause]

Let us pledge to redouble our efforts and promise ourselves that if some day our work should look good to us, we will strive to make it better, and if it is better, we will strive to make it perfect, with the foreknowledge that, for a Communist, nothing is ever good enough, and no human deed can ever be sufficiently perfect. [prolonged applause, shouting]

FURTHER ON 5 FEBRUARY PCC CONGRESS SESSIONS

Main Events Highlighted

FL061651/FL051731 [Editorial Report] Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1421 GMT on 6 February carries a report on the Third PCC Congress 5 February sessions. The announcer briefly recaps the main events of the day, and then introduces a montage of video footage of the day's sessions. The first footage consists of a 1.5-minute clip of Raul Castro's remarks at the start of the afternoon session concerning the overflight of Cuban airspace by a U.S. SR-71. This is followed by a montage of speeches by foreign and Cuban delegates to the congress, all approximately 2-3 minutes each with the exception of the speech by Angolan delegate Antonio dos Santos which totals 10 minutes. The recorded excerpts are presented in the following order (the delegates are not identified by name; the nationality of each delegate is superimposed on the screen as each speaker appears): Bulgaria, the DPRK, USSR, Hungary, Laos, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, SRV, Yugoslavia, and Angola. At the end of Angolan delegate Antonio dos Santos's speech, Fidel Castro is shown in closeup applauding.

At 1500 GMT the montage continues with 2-minute excerpts of speeches delivered from the floor of the auditorium by Cuban delegates Aldo Prieto, who discusses fishing production; Elsa Pedroso from Villa Clara, who discusses education; Roger Concepcion, who discusses construction achievements and goals; Ramona Medina de la Oz, delegate from Guantanamo, who discusses defense tasks; and Rubiselda Hernandez, speaking on education achievements.

The video montage concludes at 1508 GMT with a brief excerpt of Fidel Castro's main report dealing with exports and economic growth.

Commission Members Named

Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1613 GMT on 5 February carries a report by Jorge Risquet proposing the formation of a commission to review the main report. The commission will include the following members: Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera from Sancti Spiritus as chairman; and as members: Jorge Lezcano Perez from Havana, Juan Antonio Rosas Pena from Villa Clara, Rene Penalver Valdes from Las Tunas, Carlos Lage Davila from Havana City, Belquis Elvira Zaldivar Cueto from Santiago de Cuba, Sergio Corrieri Hernandez from Villa Clara, Maria Acevedo Nunez from Holguin, and Benito Guerra Duarte from Pinar del Rio. These are the commission members who will review the main report and submit a draft resolution.

At 1615 GMT, Risquet asks for suggestions to be added to the commission. There are none. He calls for a vote and the camera gives a wide shot of the delegates in the audience raising their hands in approval. Risquet calls for negative votes and absentions. There are none. He declares the commission approved and the audience applauds.

PCC CONGRESS SESSIONS CONTINUE 6 FEBRUARY

Attendance Noted

FL061527 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1355 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro entered the main hall of the Palace of Conventions at exactly 0857 to participate in the fourth session of the Third PCC Congress of the most important, decisive, and responsible event of the party and the Republic of Cuba.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, is chairing today's sessions. He reported that 1,783 delegates, 99.6 percent of the total number of representatives, are in attendance today.

Carlos Rafael gave the floor to Jose Ramon Balaguer, who read the draft resolution, which was subsequently unanimously approved.

Next, Saleh Mohammed Zirah, head of the delegation of Afghanistan's Communist Party [as heard], was given the floor and expressed greetings to the participants in the congress. He was followed by delegations from Algeria and Argentina who also expressed their greetings to the Congress.

Opening Session

FL061438/FL061740 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 1347 GMT on 6 February begins live coverage of the morning session of the Third PCC Congress being held in Havana's Palace of Conventions. The establishing shot is a video closeup of the Cuban flag followed by a shot of the Third PCC Congress emblem.

The Tele-Rebelde announcer reports the agenda for today's morning session, which includes speeches by unidentified foreign delegates, approval of the main report, and then reports presented by the eight commissions that will be presented for review by the delegates. The commission reports are related to the statutes of the party, the party program, and perfection of the political-administrative division, as well as "other topics," says the announcer.

The camera shows the stage in a wide shot as people take their seats. The camera there plans the audience and the main floor of the auditorium appears to be full.

At 1356 GMT President Fidel Castro enters the auditorium and proceeds to his seat at the dais. The camera shows him taking his seat and then pulls back showing that Raul Castro is also present and taking his seat at the dais.

Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1601 GMT on 6 February resumes coverage of the morning session of the Congress.

The announcer at the Palace of Conventions reports that the most important event at today's morning session is approval of the resolution on the main report. However, the announcer does not give details of this resolution. The announcer says that Cuban delegates to the congress spoke this morning, as well as "foreign, invited guests," who brought greetings from their countries, including the delegates from Afghanistan, Chile, and the United States. The Ethiopian delegate is expected to speak this afternoon, says the announcer, as well as 18 other delegates.

Reading the afternoon program, the announcer says the session will begin with a resolution on the economic-social guidelines for the next 5 years. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and member of the PCC Politburo, will discuss foreign policy this afternoon, says the announcer. Also to be discussed will be the draft resolution on political-administrative goals.

Coverage from the Palace of Conventions concludes at 1607 GMT and the camera returns to the studio.

Main Report Approved

FL070323 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 0100 GMT on 7 February in its evening newscast goes live to Havana's Place of Conventions where a report is given on the Third PCC Congress afternoon session. He says the main report, the PCC program draft, the economic and social guidelines for the period 1986-90, and other important documents have been approved. Video clips of delegates praising Castro's main report are shown. A reporter indicates that a resolution was approved to establish Castro's main report as a "political document of historic dimensions." The resolution points out that Castro's report includes a "fair evaluation of efforts made in the organization and development of production and services aimed at increasing productivity and exports but also notes how much is yet to be done". The reporter adds that Jose Ramon Balaguer chaired the commission which prepared the resolution. Video footage shows Balaguer reading the document.

The reporter asserts that the party program draft summarizes the economic strategy to be followed and social policies and tasks to be fulfilled in education, science, and culture. She adds that it includes the principles of the Cuban party and state's foreign policy and outlines defense activities and the people's political and ideological education. She continues, saying that the party program draft will be discussed by grassroots party organizations, the Union of Young Communists, workers, peasant and mass organizations, and members of the Armed Forces and the Interior Ministry. She indicates that the program draft will be discussed and approved in a Third PCC Congress special session to be held at the end of the year.

Another reporter points out that a draft and resolution on changes to the PCC statutes and draft resolution on the country's political-administrative division were also approved. On the latter, he says the document does not introduce substantial changes to the structure approved during the First PCC Congress but considers proposals aimed at improving administrative-political divisions implemented in 1976.

Afternoon Session

FL070146 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Report by commentator Amado Cordoba from the Palace of Conventions in Havana]

[Text] The sixth session of the Third PCC Congress continues, presided over by Politburo member Osmani Cienfuegos, at the Palace of Conventions in this capital. The first part of the session included the presentation of a resolution on economic-social guidelines for the 1986-90 5-year period, which prompted the intervention of Commander Fidel Castro and other delegates. The first secretary of the PCC emphasized the need to develop our political work and establish pledges for guaranteeing the presence of qualified labor forces that are being trained for launching investment programs. The session also included the unanimous approval of the draft resolution on political-administrative division.

Representatives of the Portuguese Communist Party, the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic's Polisario Front, the Palentine Liberation Organization, the Syrian Ba'th Party, and the African National Congress of South Africa read their respective messages greeting the Cuban Communists' greatest meeting.

Today's activities were characterized by the presentation and approval of the resolutions from most of the eight congress work commissions and the participation of guest delegations. The morning session, presided over by Politburo member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, was marked by a warm welcome by all those participating in the plenary meeting for an emotional message delivered by Volodia Teitelboim on behalf of the Communist Party of Chile's Political Commission. A greeting was also delivered on behalf of the Salvadoran people, by Commander Shafik Jorge Handal, who represented all the revolutionary organizations in his country.

Resolutions about the PCC's draft program and the draft modification of its statutes were also approved during the morning session. The PCC congress' third day of activities began with the presentation of the draft resolution about the main report, which was unanimously approved and accompanied by cheers for the Third PCC Congress.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, who presided over today's activities, presented the delegate for the Province of Sancti Spiritus, Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera, who read the draft resolution about the main report and presided over the commssion that drafted the document. Reading the document, Balaguer emphasized that the congress believes the main report objectively reflects -- through a brilliant and accurate critical analysis -- the work carried out enforcing the guidelines issued for the 1980-85 5-year period. The main report also underscored the people's achievements in the country's social and economic development, plus the party's leading role and Cuba's position in the international community.

During his presentation, Balaguer stated the following:

[Begin recording] The congress agrees that the report makes a just analysis because it recognizes the formidable effort being exerted in the organization and development of production, services, productivity, exports, and replacement of exports; the struggle for quality control; the savings and rational use of available resources; scientific-technical development; increased demands; and encouraging socialist improvement.

The main report also notes how much remains to be done. It includes the main goals which our party, state, and working people will themselves work to attain during the coming years. [end recording]

In addition, 149 delegates thoroughly discussed the draft party program. Carlos Aldana, who presided over the commission, explained the following:

[Begin recording] The commission elected by the delegates to the third party congress examined three types of modifications: first, a group of 14 proposals from the provincial delegates selected from the recommendation presented for consideration of the congress; second, 15 changes suggested by the central drafting group [propio grupo central de radaccion] which are the result of analysis that has been developing over the last few weeks; and third, 12 updates of figures and statistical data were introduced which are principally involved in the chapter work of the revolution. [end recording]

Delegate Joaquin Bernal Camero, who worked as vice president of the commission that analyzed the modifications to the party's statutes and the corresponding resolution, reported to the congress the conclusions reached by the commission concerning that important document.

[Begin Bernal recording] The analysis carried out corroborated the fact that the modifications to the statutes are not aimed at making changes in the Leninist principles and norms established in them.

Instead, their goal is to adapt them to the experience acquired during recent years and the demands determined by the party's growth and the improvement of its work. [end recording]

The report from the commission appointed to analyze the draft resolution on the political-administrative division was read by its vice president, Felix Perez Bilian.

[Begin Perez recording] The analysis has lead to the conclusion that political-administrative division approved during the Third PCC Congress has contributed to advocating improved socioeconomic development and to step up the development of the country's most backward territories.

Nevertheless, it was noted that there are still a number of municipalities which, although they have advanced from the socioeconomic viewpoint following the installation of the corresponding infrastructures and the enforcement of the plans for their development, continue to lack enough economic and social potential to establish an economic-administrative organization that allows them to solve most of the local problems with an acceptable level of autonomy. (end recording]

A large number of delegates from the appointed commissions participated in the work, so the texts of their resolutions were rich in experience.

Today's session also included reports and resolutions on economic guidelines and plans for the economy. In addition, the resolution on the Cuban revolution's international policy was approved.

More on 6 Feb Activities

FL062124/FL062126 [Editorial Report] Havana Television Service in Spanish at 1800 GMT on 6 February begins its national news broadcast with an announcement that the ceremony closing the Third PCC Congress will be held the afternoon of 7 February in Havana's Palace of Conventions and will be broadcast at 0200 GMT on 8 February.

Following the day's headlines is a video from the Palace of Conventions on today's session of the party congress, which was presided over by Politburo member Carlos Rafael Rodriguez.

The camera shows a montage of scenes from today's session, including a wide shot of the audience, video coverage of Ramon Balaguer, a close-up of President Fidel Castro, and a wide shot of the images of communist leaders mounted on the wall behind the stage.

The camera then cuts to Havana City delegate Luis Saturnino, who spoke from the floor on the "important role of scientific-technical research for the economic development of the country." The announcer reports that other delegates who spoke were Camaguey delegate (Grisel Pejerano), Matanzas delegate (Augustin Brey), and Cienfuegos delegate Ada Lozano, who spoke on the role of the new generation in the growth of socialism and communism.

Greetings from foreign delegations continued through this morning's session, the announcer says. Video coverage follows of a speech by Saleh Mohammad Zirah, a member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, who spoke in his native language which was translated simultaneously into Spanish. The Afghan delegate said: "When we carefully listen to the main report read by the beloved leader of the Cuban people, the prominent figure of world progress and the working class, Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, we understand why the Cuban people, under the direction of the PCC, the guiding force of the country, have achieved great transformations in areas such as industry, energy, agriculture, education, health, and culture."

Other foreign delegates who conveyed their greetings were Mohamed Ahmed Abdelghani, Politburo member of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, and Athos Fava, secretary general of the Communist Party of Argentina, Rene Theodore, secretary general of the United Party of Haitian Communists, "spoke on behalf of the revolutionary and anti-imperialist organizations of the Caribbean."

A video clip follows of Volodia Teitelboim of the political commission of the Communist Party of Chile, who said: "Even though we do not have a right to this event in our country, allow us also to approve with enthusiasm the brilliant main report, which we consider a great guiding document of out time. Since 1 January 1958 we have celebrated not only the beginning of a new year, we celebrate the beginning of the new world of socialism in America."

A montage of video interviews follows in which delegates to the congress praise the party program. A video report follows, narrated by the announcer on the PCC program. As the announcer speaks, she holds up the document and stops at various chapters as she makes comments. The party program studies the fundamental goals of the revolution, the announcer says, as well as the culmination of socialist construction. "The document, important for the future development of our country, gathers the funadmental strategic definitions of the revolution, and we are sure that it is another step forward in the order of theory and practice for our party," the announcer says. According to the announcer, work began on the program in November 1984, and it is divided into two parts. She continues, saying the first part covers the "glorious struggle of the Cuban nation for their independence and their heroic battle for socialist control despite imperialism." The second part, she says, is divided into nine chapters and "defines the goals and requirements of the national economic strategy, social policy, and perspectives on education, science, artistic, and literary culture. It contains the principles and purpose of the party and state foreign policy, the essential guidelines for defense, and the principle direction for ideological work." She also says that "the basic requirements for the perfection of the political organization of Cuban society are also included." The announcer concludes her report on the program, stating that the document will be for consideration by all the Cuban people. After this process is completed, she says, the document will be approved in a special session of the Third PCC Congress that will be held at the end of 1986.

A video report follows on the press center for foreign coverage of the party congress. The announcer indicates that Latin America, African, Asian, European, U.S., and Canadian journalists are covering the party congress.

The camera then cuts back to the studio, and the announcer reports that as of 1300 GMT other foreign delegates who spoke were (Felix Masania), member of the Worker's Party of Ethiopia Politburo; Shafik Jorge Handal, member of the General Command of the FMLN and secretary general of the Salvadoran Communist Party; Henry Winston, president of the Communist Party of the United States; Gaston Plissonnier, member of the French Communist Party Politburo; and Ngyon Nhel, candidate Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea.

The announcer then introduces video interviews held with Cuban citizens, who praise Castro's presentation of the main report as well as the content of the report. Coverage of the party congress on the national news concludes with the announcer reporting that the congress has been covered by foreign press agencies from Britain, France, CSSR, GDR, and Bulgaria.

PCC Foreign Policy Resolution

FL070303 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 0126 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Resolution on foreign policy approved by the Third PCC Congress at the Palace of Conventions in Havana on 6 February; read by Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers -- recorded]

[Text] Comrade Fidel, comrade delegates, comrade guests. As you know, the main report presented by our first secretary was approved as a whole. A joint resolution on this report was also approved. Nevertheless, the presidency of the congress considers it appropriate, given that the foreign policy of our country extends beyond Cuba, to prepare a draft resolution on this issue. The task was assigned to a group of comrades who worked hastily, and their final results were coordinated with the presidency. However, we apologize because there has been no time to present it, like the other resolution, to the delegates for their information.

Nevertheless, we note that the resolution was inspired by the main report presented by Comrade Fidel. We will try to read it slowly enough so that the comrades may have an exact picture of it and have the right to issue an opinion or vote on it. The draft resolution reads as follows:

The Third PCC Congress has evaluated the work carried out during the 5 last years in the foreign policy sector and heard the thorough analysis offered in this concern in the report presented by the first secretary of the Central Committee, Comrade Fidel Castro, and states its full approval of the revolution's international activities and underscores the firm principles which have characterized this policy, as well as its capacity to consider the new and complex conditions which arise at the international level.

Cuban Communists reasserted that the main goal of the party's international policy has been and will continue to be contributing to strengthening socialism, people's liberation and progress, and the defense and preservation of peace. They state their absolute trust in the guidelines governing that policy, based on Marxism-Leninism and the invariable practice of proletarian internationalism, in close collaboration with the Soviet Union and the socialist community; strong links with the world's Communist, labor, and revolutionary movements; solidarity with national liberation movements and the peoples who struggle for sovereignty, development, and their true independence.

The congress believes that the struggle for peace represents a vital task to which our party, state, and all the mass and social organizations of our people must continue to pay special attention. The congress underscores that socialism and peace are substantially the same; advocates respect for the principles of peaceful coexistence and the solution of international conflicts through dialogue and constructive negotiations; advocates general and complete disarmament; and rejects the imperialist policy aimed at promoting a rash arms buildup and achieving military supremacy, endangering world peace and squandering resources that mankind needs to solve its most urgent problems. Within this context, the congress supports the analysis contained in the main report concerning the significance of the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting and the possibilities [words indistinct] its resumption and the need to continue encouraging the most broad and active mobilization at the world level to halt and turn back U.S. imperialism's confrontation policy.

The congress praises the efforts of the Soviet Union to preserve peace and attain positive changes in the international situation, particularly the activity carried out in this concern by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. His statement last January included a specific proposal to eliminate nuclear and chemical weapons within 15 years and prevent outer space militarization. This would reduce the danger of conventional warfare and represent an initiative that reflects socialism's firm will to achieve peace. It is fully supported by Cuban communists and all the Cuban people.

The congress reasserts the historical and indestructible nature of Cuba's friendship with the Soviet Union. The exemplary and deeply internationalist relations between our two countries represent an essential part of all our international activities. The strengthening and development of those links represents a permanent goal in our foreign policy. We underscore the fraternal links that unite our socialist countries, parties, governments, and peoples. We also state our strong will to strengthen these ties according to our people's common goals and interests. We also confirm the decision to work steadily to develop all the projects for integrating our economy with CEMA member-countries within the framework of the complex program aimed at stepping up and improving socialist economic integration, which represents a solid base for our development.

The congress underscores the leading role of the PCC in efforts exerted to strengthen its relations with communist parties throughout the world, as well as its participation in the international communist movement, where it will continue to support its internationalist positions and struggle to strengthen its influence and unity. The fraternal alliance with all the anti-imperialist and progressive forces active at the international level will continue to receive our party's maximum attention.

Likewise, the third congress affirms the justness of the policy applied in the development of a foreign policy that, based on unity, broad goals, and in accordance with our principles, allows us to combine efforts with other political forces, such as social democrats and others, to approach vital foreign problems such as those for peace, disarmament, and the right of the peoples to development.

The third congress confirms the Cuban revolution's unbreakable ties with the brother peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean with whom it is united in history, culture, and the battle against the common enemy to achieve true and final independence. Likewise, it shares the struggles and aspirations of the peoples of Asia and Africa who march along the path of independence, progress, and social change.

The Third PCC Congress, upon examining the development of the international situation in the past 5 years, has been able to prove the justness of the analysis made during the Second PCC Congress by Comrade Fidel regarding the dangers that threatened humankind after the extreme reactionary group headed by Ronald Reagan assumed the U.S. Government. Facts have clearly confirmed that analysis.

The U.S. Government's implementation of a fascist foreign policy based on militaristic and chauvinistic ideas and in open support for counterrevolution throughout the world has provoked a dangerous worsening of tension and an increase in the arms race and military measures and led to a halt in the process of international detente.

Simultaneously, the implementation of the Reagan group's ideas regarding economics at the international level has made the distressing situation endured by almost all Third World countries more unbearable and explosive. This truly world counterrevolutionary crusade has met with the firm resistance of the peoples and many groups who are determined to confront and defeat the aggressive and outdated policies of imperialism.

The third congress stresses the most combatant solidarity of our people for all those who, under difficult situations, have upheld and continue to uphold the banners of independence, liberation, justice, and defense of national dignity and sovereignty. It proclaims its admiration for the heroic firmness with which the Sandinist revolution is confronting the counterrevolutionary aggression promoted by the U.S. Government, giving a real example of what a patriotic people can do if they are convinced of their just cause, and reiterates its full support for the FSLN and the Nicaraguan revolutionaries and urges all the progressive and democratic forces of the world to redouble their solidarity with Nicaragua.

The third congress reaffirms its solidarity with the struggle of the Salvadoran patriots within the FMLN-FDR, patriots who have resisted and grown stronger, despite adverse conditions imposed. Today they have become a real army of the people, fighting against a subservient regime and a genocidal army that can maintain itself only because of the direct support it is receiving from the United States. With their heroism, intelligence, and fighting capacity, the Salvadoran patriots have destroyed the imperialist dreams of crushing the rebelliousness in that country.

The third congress supports the determination expressed by the top leadership of our country to contribute to the search for a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict, which must include a commitment on the part of the United States to renounce its aggressive actions against the Nicaraguan people and achieve a negotiated political solution to the war in El Salvador. It also reiterates its support for the positions maintained by the Nicaraguan Government and the FMLN-FDR. In this regard, the third congress underscores that the Contadora Group peace-making efforts, despite the group's weaknesses and instability, represent an expression of Latin America's growing desire that the sovereignty of its countries be respected, that its problems be resolved peacefully, without interference or orders from the United States, and that the right of each of these countries to choose its own political and social regime be respected.

The congress proclaims its unfaltering soldiarity with the Chilean patriots whose firm resistance against the bloody dictatorship, imposed and maintained by the full support of U.S. imperialism, will lead inexorably to the people's victory. It expresses its most definite solidarity with the growing struggle of the Haitian people against Duvalier's ignominious tyranny and condemns the brutal repression unleashed to curb their just desire for freedom. It extends its greetings to the people of Paraguay, who are confronting one of the longest dictatorships experienced by this continent.

The third congress reiterates its unwavering support for the struggle of the Puerto Rican people for their national independence. In the same manner, it expresses its solidarity with the Argentine people and their legal demands for their sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands.

The third congress views in a positive light the democratic processes in Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil, which have ended a long era of repression and suffering of their peoples; it also greets the rise to power of a civilian government in Guatemala. For many years, its brave people and the revolutionary movement struggled and resisted the repressive military regimes, and today they have raised the banners of a negotiated political solution for their country. The third congress reiterates Cuba's support for Peru and its repudiation of the pressures of the United States.

Cuba will continue to exercise its solidarity with all those governments on our continent who, from a worthy position, assume the defense of the interests of their peoples and who oppose the imperialist policy of imposition and intervention. The congress underscores that Cuba will continue to work to expand the feelings of brotherhood and solidarity with the Latin American and Caribbean peoples and continue to promote the possibilities of economic integration as a means to achieve a Latin American and Caribbean community free of U.S. domination.

While analyzing the situation on the African Continent we can see the eager desire of imperialism and its privileged ally -- South Africa -- to undermine the progressive states grouped within the Frontline States and to crush the rebelliousness of the peoples who are still experiencing the terrible system of racial segregation and oppression.

The Cuban communists greatly admire and fully appreciate the South African people's increasing rebellion, which has led the racist regime to a deep and irreversible crises. We state our full solidarity with the African National Congress, which leads the struggle to eliminate this scourge of mankind, apartheid.

Ten years after achieving its independence, Angola represents a bastion of the African people's struggle for national liberation and social progress. All the maneuvers and aggressions of U.S. imperialism and the racists have crashed against the Angolan people's firm determination. The congress reasserts Cuba's unbreakable solidarity with the Angolan revolution and proclaims the Cuban Communists' pride given the close links which the blood that was mutually shed in defense of Angolan territory and the joint efforts exerted for the construction of a new life have forged between the MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola -- Labor Party] and the PCC. The congress also reasserts its staunch support for the struggle being waged by Namibian patriots for their independence under the leadership of SWAPO [South-West African Peoples Organization], their only legitimate representative.

The third congress states its high esteem and recognition for the Frontline States, given the firm position they have maintained to counter the aggressions and maneuvers of the infamous regime of apartheid. It sends its message of solidarity and support to the Ethiopian revolution, which is advancing on a socialist path and has also countered the destabilizing aggressions and plans promoted by U.S. imperialism and reactionary circles, plus the terrible consequences of the natural calamities that have afflicted it and other African countries during recent years.

The congress reasserts its solidarity with the Sudanese people who, with the strong mass actions in the north and vigorous struggle of their guerrilla army in the south, broke the chains of the Numayri regime's tyranny. The congress expresses hope that the Sudanese people will be able to carry out the process of change that is being developed in that country.

Despite the distressing economic problems being withstood by all the countries in the region and the brutal pressures being exerted on them by U.S. imperialism, they maintain progressive attitudes and offer their solidarity to the liberation struggles in Africa and the world. We send them the Cuban Communists' greetings, and we particularly note the processes started in Ghana and Burkina Faso during such a complex phase of the international situation.

The congress reasserts its support for the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic and the struggle being waged by its heroic people to achieve liberty and independence.

The Palestinian problem remains unresolved in the Middle East. The United States continues to offer its unlimited support to the Israeli regime, which Reagan has defended as its strategic ally and which has unleashed a new, cruel war in Lebanon against the Palestinian resistance and the patriotic Lebanese forces. The third congress states its full solidarity with the just cause of the Palestinian people and supports their right to their own independent state. It also demands that the territories occupied by Israel be returned to the Arab countries. The congress advocates the call for an international peace conference in the Middle East, under UN auspices and with the participation of all interested parties -- including the PLO, the only legitimate representative of these people.

The congress notes its solidarity with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which is courageously countering the threats of aggression and economic boycott decreed by U.S. imperialism against that nation.

The congress has noted with concern the armed conflict that persists between Iran and Iraq, two nonaligned countries, and expresses hope that a just and honorable solution will soon be achieved to stop this war, which has already resulted in a high loss of life and material resources.

The Reagan administration's aggressive and warmongering policy has also manifested itself in Asia, as proven by its increased military presence in the Indian Ocean and provocative military maneuvers and exercises; its political and military support to counterrevolution; its pressures to achieve massive involvement of its allies in military commitments in the region; and the obstacles it creates to the negotiation and dialogue processes currently under way.

The third congress reasserts the brotherhood and solidarity that unites us with the Communists and heroic people of Vietnam, as well as the people of Laos and Cambodia, and states its hope that these nations will be able to develop in peace the construction of their new life. The congress confirms its support for the DPRK and its noble efforts to achieve the country's peaceful and democratic reunification; supports the statements included in the main report concerning the situation which has been created by the designation of Seoul as site for the next Olympic Games, ignoring the fact that the Korean nation is cruelly and artificially divided; and underscores the need to find an honorable solution to the crisis through talks between the north and south. Without this, our country will not go to the Olympics; participation in those Olympic Games would be inconceivable.

The congress asserts its solidarity with the process of social changes being developed in Afghanistan and reasserts that a political solution to the so-called Afghan problem could be possible in principle by stopping all imperialist interference in the country's internal problems and respecting its right to develop the political system it deems appropriate and live in peace.

The congress expresses its complete agreement with what was said in the main report on the positive events taking place in the policies of the People's Republic of China on international and bilateral matters but notes that that country's hostilities and aggressive actions against Vietnam are an obstacle to a true improvement of relations between Cuba and China.

The congress gives particular importance to the Nonaligned Movement as an influential factor in international life that plays an important role in the struggle for peace, independence, and change in international economic relations for the benefit of the peoples and declares that Cuba will continue to work in the movement to strengthen its unity and action capabilities. Our country's involvement as president of the Nonaligned Movement ended during the period between the second and third party congresses and the seventh summit conference that was held in New Delhi. Cuba and Comrade Fidel Castro put all their energy into its success. The third congress underscores our country's work in the leadership of the Nonaligned Movement, the constructive and democratic spirit that has guided our activities, and the efforts made to maintain its internal unity as a necessary requirement so that it may strongly influence international policies.

The congress has listened carefully to the main report's account of the Third World countries' dramatic situation, eloquently expressed in the huge growth of their foreign debts, and agrees about the need to wage a true battle in the field of the unfair international economic order imperialism has imposed. First in this battle is the cancellation of the Third World's huge foreign debt. As is mentioned in the main report, it is unpayable. The report also notes the struggle for the new international economic order, which is necessary to create the foundations of real independence, real sovereignty of under-developed countries, and the objective possibility of achieving social changes. The conclusion that the foreign debt is unpayable, as Comrade Fidel has said, is based on estimates and arguments that have not been refuted. On the contrary, there is less possibility of its being paid each day and each hour that goes by. Sooner or later creditors and debtors, including oil exporting countries which had hopes of being able to pay the gigantic debt, will come to this same conclusion.

A dialogue aimed at finding acceptable solutions for all the parties would be the most adequte way to face this very serious problem. Bit if this problem is not solved -- and this will not be done with simple remedies and traditional formulas -- we are sure that Latin America and other Third World regions will be the scenes of fairly generalized social explosions, which in many cases will have revolutionary characteristics. For Latin America and the Caribbean, the need to cancel the foreign debt and implement a new international economic order is complemented by the need to gradually improve regional economic unity, which imperialist domination has delayed. These moves are absolutely necessary for the economic and social development of the countries of the region.

The main report indicates that by proposing the cancellation of the debt, Cuba does not wish to bankrupt the international finance system. Resources for the rational solution of the Third World's foreign debt problem could come from the reduction of the huge military spending encouraged by imperialism. In this way a logical and inseparable tie will be established between Third World countries' economic development and the strategic and decisive problem of the struggle for peace and against the arms race.

The congress expresses its complete agreement with the analysis and proposals made by Comrade Fidel regarding the foreign debt problem, and it acknowledges the intense efforts made to create the necessary awareness in the countries, leaders, and personalities of all social levels which can and should participate in this historic battle for independence and the social and economic progress of the countries of the Third World.

The third congress reiterates that Cuba's foreign policy has been and will continue to be a true reflection of our situation as a socialist country: revolutionary, deeply indentified with the causes of Third World countries, and willing to maintain state relations with all countries based on mutual respect and sovereign equality. It underscores the uninterrupted widening of our country's diplomatic relations, which evidences the defeat of imperialist policies attempting to corner and isolate the Cuban revolution.

The congress gave special attention to the analysis of relations between Cuba and the United States. In examining this situation, it is noted that these relations have been at their lowest level since the present U.S. Administration came to power. The anti-Cuban policy the U.S. Government has maintained during the last 5 years has been extremely aggressive, reinforcing the immoral economic blockade, carrying out outrageous persecutions of our trade and financial operations, promoting subversive radio broadcasts, and maintaining constant aggressive threats and taking concrete stops in planning them, while maintaining the illegal occupation of the Cuban territory on which the Guantanamo naval base is located. Faced with the new threats those policies have meant for our fatherland, our revolution multiplied its defense capabilities.

The third congress reasserts that the Cuban Communists consider as historic the need for countries of the world, regardless of their social structure, size, or level of economic and social development, to maintain normal relations based on mutual respect and the principles of international law acknowledged universally.

In this sense, the third congress reiterates that Cuba maintains an unchangeable attitude in favor of a solution of the historic differences with the United States caused by the U.S. Government's hostile policy against our revolution and its reiterated conduct of aggression, destabilization, and, as a last resort, the destruction of the social system that our people gave themselves in a sovereign manner. This solution will have to be based on the strictest respect for our independence and sovereignty, once the United States decides to deal with us in a spirit of equality and mutual respect. This serious, responsible, and constructive position is based on the determination to fulfill a principle that will favor the cause of peace in our region and in the world.

At the same time, in the face of the imperialist policy of blockades and threats of aggression, the third congress proclaims the unrenounceable determination of the Cuban people, armed and organized throughout the country, to defend whatever the cost, the socialist revolution and its achievements, independence, dignity, right to life, and unfaltering patriotic and internationalist principles.

The third congress of the Cuban Communists expresses its highest regard for the work done by our first secretary, Comrade Fidel Castro, in the correct management of our party's and state's international policy. The successes achieved by Cuba in the international field, its growing prestige and influence, are closely linked to the leadership and untiring work of Comrade Fidel Castro. [applause] The third congress appreciates this extraordinary effort that has been very meaningful for our revolution throughout these years and reaffirms the determination of the party and all the people to continue forward, firmly united around Fidel, the Politburo, and the Central Committee, toward new victories of socialism and proletarian internationalism.

The Third PCC Congress entrusts the Central Committee with the implementation, direction, and control of this resolution.

Thank you. [applause]

[Station announcer] Dear listeners, we have brought to you the text of the resolution on international policy, read by Comrade Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politiburo, which was approved by the Third PCC Congress.

NICARAGUA'S DANIEL ORTEGA HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE

PA070333 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0223 GMT 7 Feb 86

[News conference by President Daniel Ortega in Havana on 6 February -- recorded]

[Text] [Ortega] We appreciate the solidarity the Cuban people have given us. We are friendly peoples. Cuba and Nicaragua are sister nations. That is why we are participating in the Third PCC Congress, during which we already presented Nicaragua's message yesterday. I am ready to answer your questions.

[Name indistinct] Lopez, of ALLIED News Agency, formerly Catholic News of [word indistinct]. Mr President: Can you tell us if there is the possibility that [words indistinct] closing of Radio Catolica and the existing ban against the IGLESIA bulletin [words indistinct] Managua. Are there any plans to begin a dialogue with the Catholic bishops in Nicaragua on the increasingly disorganized relations between the church and state in Nicaragua in the near future?

[Ortega] I continue to emphasize that relations between the church and state in Nicaragua have not deteriorated. Nicaragua has many bishops and problems have arisen with one of the Nicaraguan bishops. Of the 9 or 10 bishops in Nicaragua, the problem is with the bishop of Managua, who is Cardinal Obando y Bravo. The state maintains normal relations with the other bishops in the various regions of our country. They are relations of cooperation, they are cordial, and there is no tension in any of the country's regions. From the standpoint of practicing religion, there are no problems regarding religious practices in Managua even though Cardinal Obando's political position opposes the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. The problem of Radio Catolica and the bulletin IGLESIA is related to violations of the country's established laws. The authorities in Bishop Obando's diocese themselves agreed that they had violated the laws. It is my understanding that anywhere in the world when laws are violated sanctions follow. That is the justification for the sanction for the violation of the law by those media in the Managua diocese. Regarding our dialogue with the bishops, we have taken the initiative of proposing a meeting with all the Nicaraguan bishops. Some of the bishops have trips on their agendas and therefore cannot be in Nicaragua. The meeting has not been held yet, but we expect it will take place soon.

[Wyman] Commander, Elizabeth Wyman of Radio Universidad, San Jose, Costa Rica. I have two very brief questions. Several weeks ago a Sandinist Air Force helicopter was downed over Nicaraguan territory by SAM-7 missiles. [Words indistinct] an irregular force, as would be the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force] has such a sophisticated piece of equipment? I ask you to [words indistinct] in connection with this and with the -- quote -- humanitarian -- unquote -- aid from the United States. Second question: In Costa Rica an election just took place. It is known that the Costa Rican territory has been used many times as a springboard to attack Nicaragua. What do you expect of the new president, Mr Oscar Arias, with regard to this situation?

[Ortega] We have explained that when the U.S. Government decided to give those surface-to-air missiles to the mercenary forces it was establishing a dangerous precedent in Latin America, and not only in Latin America but in all of America. In the history of America, where irregular forces have operated from Canada to Chile, no irregular force has ever been equipped with this kind of weapon.

The United States has supplied surface-to-air missiles and has justified, or rather tried to justify, the mercenary forces' possessing this type of armament. When aid for the mercenary forces was approved at the U.S. Congress last year -- of course this was to be humanitarian aid -- we said that, by approving financing of the counterrevolutionaries through supposed humanitarian aid, the U.S. Congress strengthened a warmongering trend in the U.S. Administration and that it would not stop there. And, indeed, the U.S. Government delivered these surface-to-air missiles to the mercenary forces a few months later. Now, we see the U.S. Government, the U.S. President, requesting more funds, making efforts to get more money, this time for direct military aid to the mercenary forces [words indistinct].

Surface-to-air missiles appear in the first line of the list, [word indistinct] more surface-to-air missiles for the mercenaries. This is, therefore, a dangerous situation in which the U.S. Congress has been supporting this venturesome policy of the U.S. Government. Even the Congress' approval in the next few weeks of this new Reagan request of funds for the mercenaries [words indistinct] the situation in the region. Either we get close to peace if the U.S. Congress rejects this financing -- we hope this will create some conditions for peace so that the U.S. leaders will think it over and make efforts for peace -- or if this financing is approved, then surely even direct action and (?participation) of U.S. troops in Nicaraguan territory would be more likely.

Regarding Mr Arias' electoral victory in Costa Rica, we respect the type of regime that occurs in each country and we demand similar treatment for Nicaragua. On a number of occasions we proposed to the Costa Rican Government specific solutions to overcome the tensions created. For example, we have stressed the creation of a neutral or demilitarized zone along the (?border) with Costa Rica. Some progress has been reported during the latest meetings with representatives of the Costa Rican Government, meetings sponsored by France. Later, however, the United States did everything possible to prevent this from progressing. The United States wants to use Costa Rica as a base for aggression against Nicaragua. For this reason, we expect to make progress with the new Costa Rican Government in a framework of mutual respect for peace and seek a formula that will permit us to take specific steps for Nicaragua's and Costa Rica's tranquillity and security at the border.

[Moderator] [Words indistinct]

[Unidentified reporter] Mr President, your trip to Moscow precipitated or was the excuse for the U.S. Congress' approval for the so-called humanitarian aid for the contras. Do you feel that there is a risk that your trip to Havana for a PCC Congress will also serve as an excuse for U.S. military aid for the contras?

[Ortega] The truth is that the Reagan government always seeks a pretext to try to seek support for its terrorist campaign against Nicaragua. In this case, [words indistinct]. My trip to Moscow last year was manipulated by the U.S. Administration to try to seek the Congress' (?support) and have the funds for the mercenaries approved. We feel that this was just a factor manipulated by the administration.

The U.S. Administration had already launched a pressure campaign on the Congress. The aid for the contras would have been approved with or without my trip to Moscow. In addition, Nicaragua cannot limit its right to have relations with certain countries of the world and move freely as part of normal relations with these countries for fear of what the United States could say. Of course, having had this experience last year, we are here in this PCC Congress today. Before leaving Managua, I was fully aware that this trip could be mainpulated by the U.S. Government through the Congress to have the military aid for the mercenaries approved. Nicaragua, however, has a principled stance. it is a free nation, and, in this case, we will not sacrifice our friendly and brotherly relations with the Cuban people.

[Perez] This is Ezequiel Perez Martinez [words indistinct]. Good morning. Commander Ortega, I would like you to comment on the possible repercussions for Nicaragua of some of the presidential changes that have occurred in Central America recently.

[Ortega] Indeed, presidential changes have occurred in Guatemala, Honduras, and Costa Rica. We feel that this opens the opportunity to initiate a dialogue on a Central American level. Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo made a very specific proposal in Guatemala. We have accepted this proposal, as did some other Central American presidents there. We would say only the Costa Rican president-elect has not endorsed this initiative. Once this has occurred, [words indistinct] a meeting of all Central American presidents. This meeting has not been possible during the past few years.

For the past 4 years, it has not been possible to hold this meeting, even though there has been willingness on the part of Nicaragua. In fact, there have been initiatives on the part of Nicaragua, and the Contadora Group has also made efforts to bring about this meeting of Central American presidents, in which we could discuss our problems and try to find answers to them. However, U.S. policy has divided the Central American governments in that respect by stirring up conflicts and manipulating them. Thus, it has sabotaged this effort. But now there seems to be some hope that this meeting may be possible, and that we could hold a Central American dialogue.

[Unidentified EFE reporter] What role could Spain play in the (?solution) of the Central American conflict, and how do you evaluate the policy of Felipe Gonzalez in this respect, so far?

[Ortega] Spain has played an active role with respect to the Central American conflict, particularly because of the good relations it has with all the Central American nations and the good relations it has with the U.S. Government. Spain has communicated with the different countries involved in the conflict provoked by the United States in Central America. We consider the Spanish policy to be most active in that respect. As to the bilateral relations with Nicaragua, Spain's position has been constructive, and it has offered to cooperate with Nicaragua and help us. Recently we received the Spanish foreign minister in Managua, who repeated this willingness on the part of Spain to continue bolstering bilateral relations with Nicaragua and to continue the search for a peaceful solution of the conflict. Spain has been quite clear in rejecting pressure and threats as a solution to the Central American conflict.

[Second unidentified reporter] Mr President, recently it was reported that the United States, in its war against Nicaragua, is preparing or already carrying out bacteriological warfare against Nicaragua. Could you expand on this?

[Ortega] We have received information about tests they have been conducting in territories bordering Nicaragua -- in Honduras -- with bacteriological weapons, to be used later in Nicaragua to try to weaken the defense lines we have deployed along the border with Honduras.

These defenses are vital because they are impeding the efforts of the mercenary forces to penetrate our territory. In view of the mercenary forces' setbacks -- which to some extent affect Reagan's efforts before Congress, as he cannot at this time show a victorious, successful counterrevolution, and must accept the fact the counterrevolution is being defeated -- these plans have been put into action to try to penetrate our defense lines and open the door for the mercenary forces to enter our territory. So, they want to incorporate the bacterioligical weapon because of their inability to create such an opening with conventional weapons.

[Third unidentified reporter] Mr President, in the next few days, there is going to be a meeting, at the Nicaraguan initiative, of political parties from Latin America and the Caribbean. What is the purpose of this meeting [passage indistinct]?

[Ortega] Yes. From 10 to 12 February there will be a meeting of political parties and forces of Latin America and the Caribbean in Managua. Already approximately 110 delegations have confirmed their participation. It will constitute a wide-ranging Latin American representation of political forces, which, from the ideological standpoint, will be a [word indistinct] meeting to be held in Managua. We consider the meeting to be of special significance at a time when the United States is confronting Latin America, when the problem of the foreign debt is affecting Latin America economically, and when there is the problem of the reduction of oil prices. All of these things increase the already critical economic and financial situation of Latin America, and have a political effect on the region.

We feel the meeting will permit an extensive debate on these issues and encourage new actions throughout Latin America from the rank and file of these political partisan forces to bolster Latin American positions, to bolster the unity of Latin America, and to encourage more united action on the party of Latin America and the Caribbean in the face of common problems, like those now affecting the Central American region due to the U.S. terrorist policy, and those affecting all Latin America due to the economic and financial problems.

[Fourth unidentified reporter] Commander, how do you evaluate the internal situation of Nicaragua at the people's level, and to what extent do you think that the economic problems created by the covert war have stirred discontent [words indistinct]?

[Ortega] The economic problems are among the most serious problems facing our country, although the most dramatic situation affecting our country is the loss of Nicaraguan lives. The economic problems are closely linked to the problems affecting Latin America and the Caribbean in general, but which have a [words indistinct] the U.S. action to try to drown the Nicaraguan economy. The United States is doing this through direct actions, such as the economic embargo against our country, and through indirect actions, like pressuring, blackmailing, and threatening international organizations to deny funds to our country, or, as in the case with the IDB, to freeze funds that have already been approved. There are also pressures on other Latin American and European governments not to offer any cooperation to Nicaragua. All this makes our economic situation very critical. Besides, the United States thinks that an economic collapse would provoke discontent among the Nicaraguan people, and rebellion against the revolution would allow more direct action on the part of the United States. However, th U.S. rulers have guessed wrong because they have not taken into account the Nicara people's anti-imperialist sentiment, which has enhanced national unity vis-a-vis th aggression and the economic crisis.

HAVANA CRITICIZES STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

PA061444 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Nestor Nunez commentary]

[Text] In a speech that cannot surprise even the most naive observer, U.S. President Ronald Reagan has shouted from the rooftops that the United States has the sacred mission of supporting counterrevolutionary forces in all regions where, according to Washington, Yankee national interests are at stake.

That categorical statement cannot be more hypocritical. According to the White House, and as proclaimed in the fascist document known as the (?Stanford) plan, guide of the current government's foreign policy, Yankee security is at stake in the entire world, as befits a chosen country predestined to dominate an uncultured and indolent humanity.

Reagan's statements and his urging to grant all kinds of help to mercenary groups attacking Nicaragua, Angola, Cambodia, and Afghanistan show that U.S. foreign policy is swiftly moving toward the most clumsy fascism, and that ultrarightist ideas fully prevail in circles of power.

There is not much difference anymore between the claim by Adolf Hitler on the right role of domination of Nazi Germany over other peoples, kand Reaganite claims that so-called Washington vital interests are at stake in the entire world. Hence, military intervention, the murder of political leaders, and any terrorist actions deemed necessary are justified. The U.S. President's most recent statements also constitute an alert to those in the world who still believe in siren songs from the most powerful imperialist power in history, and in its alleged goodwill toward weaker nations.

PRESIDENT REAFFIRMS NONINTERVENTION PRINCIPLE

PA062115 Paris AFP in Spanish 2016 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo, 6 Feb (AFP) -- In a statement to the evening newspaper ULTIMA HORA, Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco said today that the Dominican Government will not support any kind of armed intervention in Haiti nor will it tolerate destabilizing actions in this neighboring country.

In this way, President Blanco reasserted his government's identification with the nonintervention principle and put an end to rumors that circulated in some circles saying that his country could participate in some type of armed solution in Haiti, the newspaper added.

Blanco said: "I ordered the common border closed on 31 January to prevent any actions against Haiti from our territory. We are firm believers in the principle of nonintervention and act accordingly."

He added: "We will not support any armed intervention against that country."

Haiti and the Dominican Republic share the island of Hispaniola. According to unofficial estimates, 400,000 Haitians -- 1,000 of them having the official status of political exiles -- live in the Dominican Republic.

BRIEFS

NATIONAL POLICE OFFICIALS PROMOTED -- Today, President Salvador Jorge Blanco swore in four national police officials who were promoted, two generals among them. Two generals were granted retirement for years of service. Rene Luna Perez and Armando Garcia Fernandez were promoted to the rank of general, and William Lora Espinal and Rafael Socorro Pallan were promoted to the rank of colonel. The presidential action is included in the Decree No 6686, which was released today. Garcia Fernandez and Luna Perez will direct the regional commands of the national police in San Pedro de Macoriz and Baraona, respectively. [Excerpt] [Santo Domingo Radio Clarin in Spanish 1600 GMT 29 Jan 86 FL]

HAITI

DUVALIER LEAVES; POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS MENTIONED

PA071215 Paris AFP in Spanish 1152 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 7 Feb (AFP) -- According to rumors circulating here today, the succession of fugitive President Jean-Claude Duvalier will be guaranteed by a civilian-military junta that includes Lieutenant General Henri Namphy, Colonels William Regala and Max Valles, and civilians Alex Cineas and Gerard Gourque.

It has been indicated that of Duvalier's successors, Namphy is commander in chief of the Army, Col Regala his assistant, Valles is chief of the presidential police, Cineas is the labor minister, and Gourque, who is also being mentioned as the probable leader of the junta, presides over the Human Rights League.

Namphy Takes Over

PA071312 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1306 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 7 Feb (EFE) -- A National Government Council headed by General Henri Namphy has taken over the government of Haiti following the departure of President Jean-Claude Duvalier and his family.

Pledges to Respect Human Rights

PA071430 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1406 GMT 7 Feb 86

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Excerpts] Port-au-Prince, 7 Feb (EFE) -- President-for-Life Jean-Claude Duvalier left his country today and turned over power to a National Government Council headed by General Henri Namphy. Duvalier left the international airport named after his father, Francois Duvalier, at 0355 in the morning (0755 GMT) [as received] aboard a U.S. Air Force C-141 aircraft. The aircraft, which arrived from the U.S. Guantanamo base in Cuba, landed in Port-au-Prince at 0200 in the morning.

Communications abroad were cut off by military order at 0130 in the morning; they were resumed after the proclamation of the national government council. The civilian-military council is composed of Colonel William Regala, Colonel Max Valles, Gerard Gourge, president of the Human Rights League, and Alex Cineas, an engineer.

In his last address to the nation, Duvalier said on state radio shortly before the proclamation of the new government that "I am turning over power to the military to prevent a catastrophe."

At a ceremony which began at 0720 in the National Palace, General Namphy guaranteed Haitians that he will respect all human rights.

DUVALIER RECEIVES PERMISSION 'TO ENTER FRANCE'

PA071024 Paris AFP in Spanish 1017 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Paris, 7 Feb (AFP) -- President Jean-Claude Duvalier has received permission to enter France "prior to going to another country," the French Foreign Ministry announced today.

MOROCCAN GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO RECEIVE DUVALIER

PA071034 Paris AFP in Spanish 1023 GMT 7 Feb 86

[Text] Rabat, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Morocco flatly refuses to receive Haitian President Jean-Claude Duvalier following his possible departure from power, an authorized source announced today in Rabat.

The U.S. CBS Television Network, quoting unidentified, secret Western sources, announced last night that the Haitian president would leave the country within 24 hours and would travel first to France and then to Morocco.

Authorized Morocco sources said that such a report "lacks any basis, and Morocco is not involved and no contacts have been made" to receive Duvalier.

BOMB SCARE AT U.S. CONSULATE; SEARCH NEGATIVE

PA061655 Paris AFP in Spanish 1638 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 6 Feb (AFP) -- There was a bomb scare this morning at the U.S. Consulate building in this capital, some 200 meters from the presidential palace, a U.S. spokesman has announced.

An anonymous telephone call announced the presence of a bomb in the area, which was evacuated, although a search by the security forces of the building did not yield any results.

Early each day hundreds of Haitians form lines in front of the consulate to obtain a visa to travel to the United States.